

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Oberland Trade Report.

VOL. LXX.]

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BIRTHS.

On September 1st, at Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. H. T. BINGHAM, a son.
On September 2nd, at Shanghai, the wife of A. H. ERIKSEN, of twins, boy and girl.
On September 3rd, at Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. JOHN JOHNSTON, a son.
On September 4th, at Shanghai, the wife of W. J. E. FORSYTH, a son.
On September 5th, at Shanghai, the wife of GEORGE CORMAC, a son.
On September 7th, at Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. W. S. ROSS, a son.
On the 7th September, at 9, Stewart Terrace, Peak, Hongkong, the wife of Captain B. A. CRAIG, Royal Army Medical Corps, of a son.
On the 11th September, at No. 4, Elliot Crescent, Robinson Road, Hongkong, the wife of GEO. P. LAMBERT, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

On the 1st day of September, 1909, at Hongkong, ABDOL RAHIM SEUNDERAM, aged 32 years.
On September 2nd, at Shanghai, ROBERT WILLIAM, infant child of Mr. and Mrs. H. T. BINGHAM, aged 1 days.
At Shanghai, on the 4th September, GEORGE BAKER, Superintendent, Cosmopolitan and International Docks, aged 41 years.
On September 6th, at Shanghai, GEORGE HIRT, of F. W. ROSENBAUM'S, aged 32 years.
On September 7th, at Shanghai, LIZETTE ELAINE LOUREIRO, the beloved wife of J. E. LOUREIRO, aged 40 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The Siberian Mail of the 13th and 14th ultimo arrived on the 5th inst.
The Siberian Mail of the 18th ultimo arrived on the 8th inst.
The German Mail of the 12th ultimo arrived on the 3rd inst.
The Siberian Mail of the 20th and 21st ultimo arrived on the 11th inst.
The French Mail of the 13th ultimo arrived on the 13th inst.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

High hopes are entertained of a very good rice crop in Siam.

It is reported that the Wisconsin University baseball team is on its way to the East.

The Siam Electricity Co., Ltd., proposes to pay a dividend of six per cent. for the half-year.

The Bangkok Dock Co., Ltd., advertise that they are prepared to supply Blériot aeroplanes at Tcs. 7,000 each.

The Osaka Fire Relief Fund in Shanghai, which was closed on the 31st ult., amounted to Tls. 422 and \$2,296.

A new rubber issue, the Java Consolidated, is foreshadowed with a big capital of £400,000, the acreage being 10,000.

The Indian opium revenue to date this year is eleven and a half lakhs behind the estimate, the falling off being entirely in connection with the Bengal article.

Mr. R. Scott Orr Stewart, one of the junior officers of the P. and O. steamer *Palma*, died as the vessel was proceeding up the river to Shanghai last Thursday.

The accounts of the Singapore Electric Tramways for 1908 show a surplus of £24,294, but after charging debenture interest and royalty there is a loss of £4,040.

The Government of the Dutch Indies has decided to make a deep-water harbour at Deli, on the north coast of Sumatra, in the vicinity of extensive petroleum springs.

Lady Hornby, widow of the late Sir Edmund Hornby, formerly Chief Justice of H.B.M.'s Supreme Court for China and Japan at Shanghai, died on July 20th in South Devon.

An agriculturist contributes to *L. Avenir du Tonkin* an article drawing attention to the enormous export of beans from Manchuria and advocating the culture of the plant in Tonkin.

Some sensational arrests have recently been made at Hanoi of Annamites who have been promoting among domestic servants and others in foreign employ a revolt against the French.

The British gunboat *Thistle* has arrived at Nagasaki from Weihaiwei for repairs. The flagship *King Alfred* was expected to arrive at Nagasaki from Weihaiwei with the *Monmouth* on or about the 12th September. The Commander of the British China Squadron will probably remain at Weihaiwei. Both vessels are to be repaired at the Mitsui Bishi yard.

Dr. Cawas Lalaca, who was murdered at the same time as Sir Curzon Wylie, was insured with the Ocean Accident Corporation for £2,000. The claim for this amount was admitted by the company on 11th ult.

The P. & O. steamer *Peshawur* is due at Hankow next month to load frozen meat for Europe. The steamer has 6,000 feet more refrigerating space than the *Palermo*, which took the last consignment to London.

T. E. Na Tung and Liang Tun-yen have decided to invite the British Minister to the Waiwupu for a final discussion of the Tungkwanshan mine question, and to request him to order Mr. McGuire to leave the mines forthwith so as to prevent complications.

That the Japanese authorities are determined to put a stop to gambling is shown by the heavy sentence passed recently on two Chinese tailors who were caught playing a gambling game in their residence at Nagasaki. Each man was ordered to be imprisoned for one year.

The *Kuo Pao* of Peking has suggested that a National Press Association be formed for the mutual protection of its members in case of their freedom of speech and writing being attacked. All Chinese newspapers in China and abroad which approve of the idea are invited to send in their names.

The American transport *Sheridan* on her arrival at Manila last week reported that when over 3,500 miles from North Head, Washington, her operator picked up communication with the Washington station and messages were taken and received. This is considered to be the most successful test of wireless telegraphy thus far accomplished.

What goes to show that money for good investments is not as scarce in Bangkok as in Singapore and other places in the East is the fact that of the shares recently offered to the public by the Bagan Rubber Company, Limited, some 36,500 ticals worth were taken up in Bangkok alone in a few days, and the secretary reports applications still coming in.

Says the *B. N. B. Herald*: Those of our old officials who remember when it took weeks, sometimes months, to get to the interior, and then with great risk, can hardly realise the fact that gymkhanas are held at Tenom, and that excursion trains are advertised to attend the Interior Gymkhana at single fares for the return journey. It is a sign that North Borneo is forging ahead and getting quite up to date.

Rev. A. H. Francke, the well-known Tibetan scholar, who is exploring on behalf of the Archaeological Department in Rupsho district on the borders of Western Tibet, has already made several notable discoveries. Amongst them is a whole library of manuscripts dating back over eight hundred years; also the texts of a treaty made in the sixteenth century between Bashahr and Tibet, and various pre-Buddhist hymns.

According to Japanese reports the population of Chientao numbers over 110,000. The bulk of these, that is 82,999, are Koreans, of whom 37,161 are men and 80,828 women. The number of families is 16,101. Chinese number 27,373, there being 3,900 families containing 17,198 men and 10,173 women. The Japanese have only 50 odd families of over 200 men and women. The Chinese officials and troops are excluded.

Partridge shooting prospects in the North are the worst for twenty or thirty years. "East Sussex" in the N.-C. *Daily News* estimates that 75 per cent. of the young birds have perished owing to the wet and coldness of the summer.

Akiyama Ichiyu, managing director of the Dai Nippon Sugar Company, who is now under arrest in connection with the sugar scandal, is reported to be suffering from brain trouble. Little hope is expressed of his recovery, and he has accordingly been admitted to bail.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* says it is semi-officially stated that recent trials of Po-schan coal on the German East-Asiatic station have been very favourable. The gun-boat *Illis* is said to have achieved better results with considerably less expenditure of fuel when using coal supplied by the Shantung Mining Company, with which a contract was concluded by the German authorities last year, than when using Cardiff coal.

The Editor of a Chinese paper in Japan and five other Chinese residents in Japan, have arrived in Shanghai in order to advocate a boycott of Japanese goods. They have paid visits to Chinese newspaper offices and Chinese Chambers of Commerce as well as the Shanghai Taotai. The local Chinese Chamber of Commerce is quite determined not to have a boycott, and the Waiwupu has sent telegrams to Viceroy and Governors requiring that the provincial authorities should instruct people to keep calm and not attempt to boycott Japanese goods.

Imperial audience was granted, on the 27th, to the ex-Vice-President of the United States, Mr. Fairbanks, as well as to Admiral Harber and the commanding officers accompanying him, the American Charge d'Affairs (Mr. Fletcher), and the members of the American Legation and staff. The Admiral and navy captains were first received. After the formalities, the Prince Regent conversed with Admiral Harber. Afterwards Mr. Fairbanks was received, and some time was spent in conversation between the Regent and the American statesman. The American visitors were entertained at an elaborate banquet given in their honour by the Waiwupu.

Japan papers publish a statement to the effect that the organization of Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co., Yokohama, hitherto an unlimited partnership, has been changed, and the firm has become a joint-stock limited company (Kabushiki Kaisha), its capital being limited to one and a half million yen in consideration of the post-bellum economic condition of Japan. Although the new Company, in compliance with British law, has its head office nominally in Hongkong, with branches at Yokohama, Kobe, Osaka, Shimonoseki, Taipeh, Tamsui and Takao, yet in reality Yokohama is the location of the head office, commanding all other offices, under Mr. E. C. Davis, Managing Director. The firm is still associated with Messrs. M. Samuel & Co., Unlimited, of London, in the relationship of Principal and Agent, and undertakes any big enterprises with their assistance as hitherto.

Several Shanghai changes are to take place in the staff of the American Consulate-General. Since Mr. Amos P. Wilder, who succeeded Mr. Denby as Consul-General went home, Mr. Percival Heintzleman, Senior Vice-Consul, has been in charge, but now it is announced that he is to return to the State Department at Washington. Mr. Heintzleman was formerly for eighteen months Assistant Chief of the Bureau of Far Eastern Affairs in the Department, having previously been engaged in China, and about nine months ago he came to Shanghai as senior Vice-Consul, and was to leave on the 7th inst. by the s.s. *Tenyo Maru* for home, when he will take up the position of Chief of the Bureau of Far Eastern Affairs, a post of much responsibility. The duties of Vice-Consul in charge now devolve upon Mr. W. Roderick Dorsey, who on a previous occasion assumed charge during a temporary absence of Mr. Denby. In view of the departure of Mr. Heintzleman and Mr. Hull, Mr. J. I. Viney, who was formerly at Shanghai, will be transferred from Peking, and will be junior Mixed Court Assessor and have charge of the Land Office.

THE CHINESE SAILOR.

(*Daily Press*, September 4th.)

SINCE the passing of the Merchant Shipping Act of 1906, which imposed a language test on all seamen, British subjects excepted, and more especially since the issue some few months ago of a minute by the Board of Trade with a view to the stricter enforcement of this rule, we have seen some surprising statements published under the authority of one or other of the Seamen's Unions, intended to discredit the Chinese sailor. The general grievance against Chinese sailors is that in a great number of instances they have succeeded in evading the Act by declaring that their domicile is Hongkong, and by the issue of the Board of Trade minute superintendents of Mercantile Marine offices in the United Kingdom were informed that in future no Oriental seaman or other person of apparently foreign origin would be exempted from the provision of the Act unless he could produce a certificate of birth, a certificate of naturalisation, or some other authenticated official document showing that he is a British subject or the inhabitant of a British Protectorate. But even this does not appear to give satisfaction to the promoters of the Act, and resort is being had to other devices to prejudice the public against the Chinese sailor. Recently Chinese sailors were referred to by a Labour member in the House of Commons, on the strength of observations made in Poplar, as men who habitually get drunk and are so violent on such occasions that a single man needs the attentions of a half-a-dozen policemen. As was pointed out in the *Daily Press* at the time, the type of Chinaman found in Poplar, if the description given be accurate, bears no resemblance to the type in Hongkong, where we have the advantage of seeing more Chinese seamen in a week than are to be seen in any European port in a decade. Seldom is a drunken Chinaman to be seen in the streets, and the Police Court records bear eloquent testimony to the sobriety of the race in that they do not show as regards the Chinese an average of one conviction a month for drunkenness. Another charge made against the Chinese sailor is that in an emergency he cannot be depended on to assist in saving life, as it is against his personal interests to do so. In a communication recently sent to the Press by the Merchant Service Guild occurs the astonishing statement that, according to Chinese law, a Chinaman is bound to maintain the man he rescues from drowning for the rest of his natural life. We have not been able to learn that there is the slightest foundation in fact for this assertion. While one or two instances have come within our own knowledge of Chinese sampan men, in the harbour of Hongkong, deliberately refusing to assist a drowning man when called upon to do so, yet those who know their China well are aware that this callousness is not characteristic of the whole race. On the contrary, China has had its "Lifeboat Guild" for, we dare say, hundreds of years, and it is rightly regarded as one of the most meritorious of the elaborate systems of guilds which permeates Chinese society. We are not aware that the laudable work of the guild is much in evidence in South China, but no one who has travelled up the Yangtze River can be unfamiliar with the excellent rescue work performed by the "red-boats," which in fine weather lay up in creeks and shelters while the crews pass their time in leisure, but as soon as a storm arises put out and ride to a drift anchor, ready at a moment's

notice to hoist sail and dash to the rescue of any craft in distress. Mr. OLIVER READY, in his interesting book on "Life and Sport in China," devotes a couple of pages to the work of this Guild on the Yangtze, and from personal observation writes in high appreciation of the rescue work done by these boats. As a set-off to the one or two isolated instances of callousness to which we have been referring as occurring in the harbour of Hongkong, we may recall the interesting ceremony which took place only a few months ago, when thirteen Chinese gimen in the service of the Imperial Maritime Customs at Taishan, in the Kowloon district, were the recipients of well-merited honours conferred upon them by the Viceroy of Canton for the gallantry they displayed in saving the lives of some 150 junk people during the typhoon of last year. Mr. HARRIS, the Commissioner of Customs, when handing the honours to the men, spoke in the highest terms of the services which were thus rewarded, and added that the men had acted as he should have expected them to act—faithful to the traditions of their native land. The Chinese sailor may have his defects, but he has many admirable qualities, too. Sobriety is certainly one of them, and we would hesitate to believe that in an emergency Chinese sailors would compare at all unfavourably with average crews of any other race. That the Chinese sailor would be held back from rescue work by a knowledge that he would saddle himself, under Chinese law, for the rest of his life with the responsibility of maintaining the person rescued is an idle invention too palpably absurd, we should imagine, to deceive anybody.

LIKIN AND CUSTOMS DUTIES.

(*Daily Press*, September 6th.)

The suggestion which was some time back thrown out by the Chinese Government that the time had come when it might be desirable for the foreign nations having treaties with China to consider whether the duties on foreign goods should not be increased, is one which we may be certain will be renewed when opportunity offers. The proposal that was made was that there should be a conference of foreign nations on the subject, but this was met by a very distinct reply from the British Government that, as the Chinese had not given up the collection of *likin* dues upon foreign goods, they could not reasonably ask for an acceptance by foreign nations of increased customs dues. The answer is a very obvious and a very conclusive one, but it can hardly be supposed that the matter will end here; nor, for some reasons, is it perhaps desirable that it should do so. What seems almost certain to occur is that there will be reconsideration, in one form or another, of the whole of the agreement as to duties made in the British Treaty of Tientsin (and the treaties with other foreign nations which adopted the same principles), with strict reference to the question of the *likin* taxes, with which the tariff, both import and export, is so intimately connected that it cannot be properly dealt with apart from it. This, as is only too well known, has been a matter of trouble and dispute almost from the day the Treaty of Tientsin came into force. The agreement then made by the Chinese was that Transit Dues on foreign imports should be computed by an extra payment of half the tariff dues at the foreign Custom House—an arrangement which was certainly both convenient and just. The idea the foreign Plenipotentiaries had undoubtedly was that the

exemption thus given would attach to foreign imports wherever they went to in China, and in whose hands they might be. This would, in fact, amount to a complete abolition of the system of *likin*, which worked so unfavourably against the spread of foreign manufactures in the interior. With the comparatively limited knowledge which the best informed Europeans had at that time as to Chinese financial matters, this was a reasonable construction for foreigners to put upon the agreement. Whether the Chinese knew that this was what was expected, it is, of course, impossible to say. They may have known it perfectly well, and have from the first seen a way in which the stipulation could be avoided, and with this they have generally been credited, though it must be admitted that, looking at the matter from the Chinese standpoint, it is possible they were under the impression that the exemption was only intended to apply so long as the goods were in the hands of the foreign merchants, and that, once they had passed into Chinese hands, they became subject to the same local taxes that would be placed upon all goods belonging to Chinese and carried by Chinese traders through the country. However this may be, such is the construction which the Chinese have put upon the matter, and upon which they have acted, and certainly will continue to act unless some more definite and satisfactory arrangement can be come to on the subject. That the Chinese did not intend to give up all *likin* dues seems likely from one very obvious consideration, namely, that the Peking authorities could not do so without the concurrence of the Provincial Officials, who, so far as is known, were never consulted in the matter, and who certainly never agreed to give up any of their established rights as to local revenue. The change would be a complete departure from the system which has existed for ages in China, by which these dues go to the Provincial Exchequers, and without some clear arrangement with them any agreement with foreign nations to do away with internal dues must of necessity be abortive. Such certainly has proved to be the fact, and the question now is whether any equitable arrangement can be come to, possibly, as suggested, including some increase in the import duties, whereby what undoubtedly was the understanding of the foreign Governments and was, when the Treaties were concluded, believed to be the intention of the Chinese Authorities, can be really put into effect.

There are, at the present time, many reasons why the whole subject might be re-considered, and it is not impossible that something may be done if all the parties concerned are duly consulted and can come to some *bona fide* understanding that may be satisfactory to all. It is obvious that a mere assurance on the part of the Peking Government cannot be considered an absolute guarantee that the inland duties will be entirely given up unless it is first made clear that an agreement to this effect has been come to with the Provincial Authorities. No doubt the Central Government might consider itself strong enough to force the abolition of the dues by the Viceroy, but all experience shows that this is at best doubtful, and that, in order to be certain that they can do so, they must come to some understanding as to the terms upon which they will ask the Provincial Officials to do away with the *likin* taxes. It is not impossible that the changed relations between Peking and the Provinces, which has been brought about by improved inter-communication through the railways, may

make it possible for the Central Government to effect a reform in this direction such as could not be brought about in former days. But before foreign nations can entertain any proposition for an increase in the Customs Duties, as agreed to by Treaty, they must be satisfied that such an arrangement has been come to, and also that it will be loyally carried out. Until this has been made clear, it is manifestly unreasonable for the Chinese Government to ask that an increase in the Customs Tariff should be considered, and it rests with them to satisfy the Foreign Ministers upon this point.

THE RUBBER BOOM.

(Daily Press, September 7th.)

The inclusion of quotations for Straits Settlements rubber shares in almost every share report issued in the Far East sufficiently attests the fact that there is a growing interest among investors in this part of the world in the prospects of the market for this commodity. Large profits have already been made out of cultivated rubber, and the consensus of opinion among experts is that there is a most remunerative market in prospect for some years to come, yet having regard to the remarkable crop of new companies which have of late been floated, a word of caution is frequently dropped by most writers on the subject. Glancing down a share list in one of the Straits newspapers we notice that out of twenty companies whose "last dividends" are recorded, ten of them paid over 25 per cent. The list includes dividends of 30, 45, 50, 55, 60, 75 and even 80 per cent. It is not surprising, therefore, that rubber shares should be attracting attention in places far distant from the rubber plantations. Indeed, it seems to be the distant investor who has reaped the lion's share of these huge profits rather than the men on the spot, for we find one of our Penang contemporaries remarking that "properties situated almost within sight of the town have been floated in Singapore or taken up by syndicates in Hongkong and Shanghai, the profits which might legitimately have been made here naturally going to those places." It is recorded as an "extraordinary fact" that while hundreds of people at Home and scores in Singapore and Kuala Lumpur have made huge profits out of the recent rubber "boom," hardly anybody in Penang seems to have derived any direct pecuniary benefit at all therefrom. This simply illustrates, what KIPLING has preached about home-staying people. If we may slightly alter Kipling, we might ask, "What do they know of Penang, who only Penang know?" Perhaps, however, the neglect of the Penang people to catch fortune as it flies may have been due to a lack of funds available for investment. In the first six months of the present year no fewer than thirty rubber companies (most of them for exploitation in the East Indies) were floated in England with an aggregate capital of £4,230,000, of which £2,346,000 was offered to the public. And the list looks like being indefinitely extended. Therein, as many think, lies the danger—over cultivation. In the Malay Peninsula, Ceylon, Borneo, Sumatra and Java there are at the present time over three hundred companies engaged in the cultivation of rubber, but the present output of cultivated rubber even now is only about 5 per cent. of the world's production, the balance being wild rubber from Brazil and Africa. A comparison of the cost of bringing wild and cultivated rubber to the market is very satisfactory to the man who has his money invested in rubber plantations. Cultivated

rubber, it appears, can be produced at a cost of 1s. 6d. per lb. inclusive of all charges and freight to the market, and it is expected that matured experience will lessen this considerably. On the other hand, wild rubber from Brazil, owing to the difficulty of collecting and a large export duty, costs 3s. to bring to the market. The price of cultivated rubber has recently been as high as 8s. 6d. per lb. Even if it dropped to 3s. the profit would still be 100 per cent., so that on these reckonings sound rubber companies appear to be well worth the investor's attention so long as there is any prospect of the present demand for rubber continuing. The possibilities which suggest caution are: (1) over production, (2) the invention of a commercially efficient substitute for rubber; (3) the discovery of a process of prolonging the life of the manufactured rubber; and (4) disease in the trees. But neither of these possibilities seem likely to trouble investors in rubber in the immediate future.

CHINA'S IMPORT DUTIES.

(Daily Press, September 9th.)

The leading British newspaper, REUTER informs us to-day, thinks that the Powers will not object to an increase of the import duties if they receive from the Chinese Government the assurance that the increases will be intelligently and honestly applied. Was it, then, in consequence of the absence of that assurance that the British Government only about three months ago refused to entertain the suggestion when it was put forward by the Chinese Government, or does this pronouncement on the part of *The Times* indicate a change of attitude on the part of the Government? The Chinese Government is very intent on an early revision of the duties, and the proposal is certain to be brought forward again, notwithstanding that the suggestion met with little encouragement from the British Government, acting, it may be presumed, in this matter, in concert with the other foreign nations concerned. There can be no doubt that, before any proposition for an increase in the duties on foreign imports can be entertained, the Chinese Government may fairly be called upon to place before the foreign representatives some absolute assurance that the inland duties will either be abolished altogether or will be so regulated that they will not continue to be an undue hindrance to foreign trade. If this can be done, there are reasons at the present time why a proposition to make a moderate increase in the Import duties might be considered, but before this can be acceded to there must be a guarantee that the duties thus agreed to shall be final, and shall not continue to be supplemented in an indefinite way by the continued imposition of the *likin* or inland barrier taxes. What particular form any scheme for the adjustment of this matter would have to take must very largely depend upon the attitude which the Provincial Officials might adopt in the matter; but it would not be beyond the powers of the Peking authorities to make it clear to them that their interests, as well as those of the Imperial Government and of the nation at large, would be served by some reasonable understanding upon the subject. This might be arrived at, of course, in either of two ways—either by relieving the Provincial Authorities from certain payments, which they are now expected to make to the Central Government, or by allowing them a certain proportion of the monies paid through the Customs in commutation of the internal

dues. So little is known, even to those in other respects well acquainted with Chinese matters, of the manner in which the Chinese Finances are conducted, or rather mis-conducted, that it would be venturesome to suggest precisely what course should be adopted. There is a great deal in favour of the plan of allowing the Provincial Exchequers a fair proportion of the dues collected in commutation of *likin* through the Foreign Customs, as there is already the machinery for the purpose in the Inspectorate, and there would be a guarantee of regularity, if the matter were placed in its hands. This also would be, in reality, carrying out what was undoubtedly the intention in the Treaty of Tientsin, as it was understood by the British—whatever view the Chinese may have had or may have chosen later on to say they entertained. On the other hand, there is, of course, much to be considered as to the difficulty of doing away with so long established a system as that of the collection of *likin* in the Provinces, and it can be readily understood that it may be a difficult matter to get the Viceroys and others to give up what in process of time they have come to look upon as their rights in this matter without obtaining a substantial *quid pro quo*. This was the weak point of the Treaty arrangement. In all fairness, the Imperial Authorities were not justified in making any arrangement with foreign countries in regard to internal taxes without first coming to a definite understanding with those who would be immediately affected by any such agreement—and it was their omission of this necessary preliminary step which in a large degree led to the difficulties which have since arisen. If this were once definitely settled, the door might be opened for the consideration whether any increase in the tariff might be agreed to, but until some such arrangement has been come to with the Provincial Officials the request is manifestly premature. The mere assurance of the Chinese Government that it will be arrived at is evidently not sufficient. We practically had such an assurance in the Tientsin Treaty, but everyone knows what it has amounted to in fact.

There is, of course, a third alternative that might be resorted to, namely, that the *likin* dues should be recognised as collectable on foreign as well as Chinese held goods, but that the *likin* system itself should be thoroughly reformed, and placed upon a basis which would secure equality of privilege to foreign and Chinese-held goods. This would, if practicable, be satisfactory in one important direction, namely, that it would least interfere with the established system in China. It is however, obvious that the task of effecting such a reform would be by no means an easy one. The railway system, which has now become an established fact in China, and is destined to spread, might, however, afford the means of collecting such dues in a regular and definite manner. The points at which such *octroi* should be payable might be defined and arrangements made to collect them by recognised officials at certain stations such as would not be oppressive to trade, and might be a source of fair revenue to the Provincial or Imperial exchequer as might be agreed. But in order that any such system should be effective, it would be necessary to secure a thoroughly organised system of collection, such as—seeing the irregularity that has always characterised Chinese financial matters of this kind—might be difficult to arrive at on Chinese lines, but which might possibly be attained by some system similar to that of the Inspectorate of Customs being applied also to the collection of inland taxation.

THE MACAO BOUNDARY QUESTION.

(Daily Press, September 10th.)

It is fully two months since the Chinese and Portuguese Commissioners arrived in Hongkong to conduct negotiations for the delimitation of the boundaries of the Colony of Macao, but so far, we understand, there have been only four sittings, and no progress whatever seems to have been made towards a settlement of this long-standing dispute. Indeed, the extraordinary attitude which the Chinese in Canton and the Heungshan district have adopted in regard to the Commission make an amicable settlement of the question extremely difficult, not to say highly improbable. They, in short, adopt the attitude that the boundaries are already well known to the Chinese authorities and the people generally, and that the Portuguese have encroached upon them. Therefore, the only settlement which will be accepted by the Chinese public as satisfactory is one which is in complete accordance with their own ideas on the subject. The appointment of Commissioners to amicably discuss the matter with a view to arriving at a settlement has been a signal for agitation. The notorious Self-Government Society of Canton was, of course, a prime mover in the matter. In the Heungshan district a "Boundary Protection Society" has been called into existence, and a circular recently issued broadcast in the district by the Society proposes the formation of a volunteer corps in every village. It is calculated, we understand, that an armed force of 80,000 could thus be raised. With what object? This Boundary Protection Society represents that the excitement engendered by the dispute over the boundaries of Macao is such that "rumours are current of a rebel movement" in the neighbouring district, and as the authorities will not increase the local military force, the agitators urge that the people must take steps "to protect themselves." No people are more adept at using language to conceal their thoughts than the Chinese, so no one familiar with the ways of the agitators will be misled by the subterfuge invented to form a pretext for this remarkable proposal. The plain meaning of it all is that if the settlement of the dispute reached by the Commissioners is unfavourable to Chinese pretensions, then the people should resort to force. This hostile attitude has doubtless been fostered to a great extent by the publication of rumours in the Chinese Press representing that the Portuguese Commissioner has formulated certain preliminary demands—which it may incidentally be remarked are foreign to the actual business in hand—and these have served well enough to add fuel to the fire. They have been semi-officially denied at Macao in an "express" which has been widely circulated by one of the Chinese newspapers there, but the contradiction will probably prove of little avail seeing that the authority on which it is made is not disclosed. The Chinese of the district have been worked up to such a pitch of excitement over the matter of the delimitation of the Macao boundaries that the Waiwupu has been bombarded with telegrams requesting that instructions should be telegraphed to the Chinese Commissioner "to adopt a firm attitude." The Boundary Protection Society has even appealed for warships to be stationed in the neighbourhood of Macao. The limit of patience has been reached in Peking and the Waiwupu has sent to the Provincial Authorities a strong telegraphic despatch instructing them to

warn the people against accepting every mischievous rumour that is put into circulation, and leave the settlement of the matter to the duly appointed Commissioners. We trust this advice will be followed. If the agitators could only understand how ridiculous and unworthy of respect China appears in the eyes of the civilised world when such flagrant disrespect of constituted authority is shown by the people, the appeal of the Waiwupu would prevail; but we confess that the history of kindred agitations by the Self-Government Society gives little hope of this. In the present temper of the people of South China, which admits of no compromise, the prospects of a successful issue of the negotiations are far from hopeful.

PRINCE ITO ON CHINA.

(Daily Press, September 11.)

Prince Ito, the creator of Modern Japan, has confessed in a public speech recently that he has grave doubts about the success of constitutional government in China. We venture to add that those doubts are largely shared at the present time by nearly every student of Chinese politics. True, the decision of the Throne to grant constitutional government was generally welcomed abroad as evidence that at last the spirit of progress and reform had permeated into the very palace of Peking itself, but the wisdom of the decision not to grant it immediately was also recognised and extolled. The gift was to be dangled before the eyes of the nation for a period of ten years, during which term all necessary preliminary arrangements were to be made to prepare the people to receive the privilege that every civilised nation in the world enjoys. China's statesmen clearly recognised the backwardness of the nation, and the fact that vast administrative changes were needed before the day arrived for the promise to be fulfilled. So far the only outcome of this political prescience has been the inauguration of a measure of local autonomy, putting into the hands of the people a power which they seem to be in danger of using most unwisely and with sad results. But before enlarging on this point, let us state the grounds of PRINCE ITO's pessimistic forebodings.

First, His Excellency points to the difficulty of satisfactorily running an Imperial Parliament until there is such a network of railways spread over China's vast empire as will bring the uttermost provinces within a few days' reach of the Capital. He points out that at the present time it takes several months to reach some of the outlying parts of the Empire. But we must not overlook all that is covered by the fact that it is not proposed to grant a constitution for another seven or eight years. We do not think the present lack of rapid communications need be regarded as a serious obstacle to the success of Parliamentary Government at Peking eight or ten years hence. Parts of the Empire which five years ago took weeks to reach can now be visited by means of railways in a few days. When we reflect on the astonishing development of railway enterprises in China during the last five years, and when we take note of the fact that throughout the length and breadth of the land the attitude of the Chinese towards railways has changed from one of implacable antagonism into a mania to possess them, we may safely assume that in the next ten years the construction of railways in all parts of the Empire will proceed on a more extensive scale than has been the case heretofore (provided the necessary

capital is forthcoming), and we cannot doubt that in the course of another ten or fifteen years there will be few parts of the Empire from which the Capital may not be reached in a fortnight. This, then, would largely dispose of the Prince's first argument, but when His Excellency quotes the further difficulty of securing uniform practice in the provinces, every observer will recognise that he points to a fatal weakness in the organisation of the Empire. The Prince in his speech recalled that when he had a talk at Tientsin with the late LI HUNG CHANG he referred to the absurdly low revenue of the Chinese Government, in comparison with the enormous area of the Empire and the vastness of the population. He advised LI HUNG CHANG to readjust the taxation of the Empire with a view to raising sufficient revenue to establish a satisfactory Army and Navy, and also to reorganise the government. Li's reply was that "since the Hun era, many hundreds of years ago, it had been impossible to improve the practice as regards taxation." The Japanese statesman thereupon warned LI HUNG CHANG that unless the Imperial Government of China, was able to change the customs, not only of the Hun era, but others which had endured since the beginning of her history, China was never likely to progress, and might be exposed to danger. LI HUNG CHANG made no reply, but, possibly like the proverbial parrot, thought a great deal. There is no doubt that this lack of uniformity in administration militates greatly against the success of constitutional government. As we have already suggested, there are at least a few among the statesmen of Peking who recognise the essential need of uniformity, especially in the fiscal administration, but beyond the publication of memorials containing pious aspirations for a National Budget, a national currency and other highly necessary or desirable reforms before constitutional government is definitely inaugurated, we have nothing to report in the way of preparations for Magna Charta Day in China.

In speculating upon the success or failure of constitutional government in China, we cannot ignore the ominous symptoms of danger associated with the exercise of local autonomy. As Prince Iro remarked, local autonomy constitutes the foundation of constitutional government. The Prince hazarded the brief suggestion that it will be extremely difficult to establish even this foundation in China. By this, presumably, his Excellency meant that it would be difficult to work a system of local self-government in China so that it will prove a source of strength to the State rather than a fatal weakness. We have only to point to the history of the Self-Government Society of Canton to indicate the dangers to which local autonomy and the higher forms of constitutional government are likely to expose China until there is a great improvement in the political education of the franchise holders. Prince Iro suggested that it was worth considering how this movement in China would affect the general peace of the Far East. His Excellency referred to it as "undoubtedly a serious problem," and he asked what would be the fate of China if she should not succeed in establishing constitutional government. We might go further and ask what will be her fate if she does? Japan, Prince Iro told his hearers, would be very much affected by the result, whatever it was, and he advised that the Japanese people should pay more attention than they have done to all developments of the constitutional government scheme in China.

He commented on the absence of any speculations on the subject in the European and American press and wondered whether it was that foreigners had not carefully studied the question, or whether they purposely refrain from publishing their views. It will generally be admitted that few men are better qualified to form a judgment on the question than the author of the constitution of Japan, and the warning he gives is one which the statesmen of China cannot afford to disregard.

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

Marvellous! The Post Office buildings are being treated to a coat of paint, or it may be two, a thing which hasn't been done before for years. Looks as if the authorities were not in hopes of getting into the new premises for some time when they are spending money in this way.

There has been an impression in the Colony that the heat begins to lessen in September, and not a few bathing parties are in consequence discontinued at the end of August. That impression is not strengthened by the experience this year, and those who continue their bathing excursions have shown a wisdom which is to be commended.

The week's pabulum has shown a rare variety. There has been the "criminal conversation" proceedings in Court, the visit of the evangelist party, the arrival of Bandmann's Merry Little Maids, the oratorical outburst at the Sanitary Board, and the interesting meeting of the Legislative Council, possessing some unusual features.

In the "criminal conversation" case the counsel on either side made the most of their opportunities for effective phrasing and picturesque illustration. Sir Henry Berkeley seemed happy when he tried the "how-do-you-do-old-boy" style of thing, and on the other hand, Mr. Slade apparently enjoyed going for the scandal-mongers, "the old cats of Kowloon." The jury seemed the most unhappy of all. They wished to be relieved from serving for quite a long time, but the Chief Justice declined to accede to their request. However, he did it so nicely that I am sure the jury didn't mind.

According to the *Daily Press* account of the first meeting of the visiting missionaries in Hongkong, Mr. Alexander showed a sporting spirit which must have appealed to a larger audience than faced him that night. The idea of offering a hymn book to anyone who would stand up and sing the chorus of a hymn just introduced was decidedly novel. A few sports took him at his word and went through the chorus with a quaver—I mean quiver—and sat down with a feeling of triumph when the choir-master complimented them on having done very well. How would the principle work out in the churches? I am afraid there would not be a run on hymn books, but the prizes might take some other form.

The evangelists who "passed through" Hongkong would not feel highly flattered had they read the notice on the Star Ferry on Tuesday announcing that a late ferry would be run ten minutes after the conclusion of "the performance in the theatre." As the Theatre was occupied by the evangelists that night, it looks like a reflection on their methods. Revivalists are frequently charged with theatricality, but not often so innocently as in this instance. It reminds me of the scoffer who asked a friend: "What do you think of Parson Blank as an actor?"

What a time the Sanitary Board had on Tuesday! The members seemed to satiate themselves with all sorts of business and looked determined to exhaust the agenda as well as the unfortunate scribes whose duty it is to note the words of wisdom as they fall from the lips of members. Fortunately their task is lightened by the fact that they are expected to exercise their discretion, with the result that there are many words spoken and many speeches made which do not find their way into print. Were

it not so, another authority would have to be created to suppress the nuisance created by the Sanitary Board.

It seems an extraordinary proceeding that a legislative assembly should pass an ordinance giving powers for the suppression of a certain nuisance and then withdraw it in order to try the effects of sweet persuasion. The anti-spitting clause is to be deleted from the Criminal Amendment Ordinance, and local Chinese are to be allowed an opportunity of checking the insanitary and disease-producing habit. It is to be hoped they will succeed. The experiment will certainly be watched with interest.

Running across an ancient mariner the other day, he grumbled, as is the habit of mariners, ancient and otherwise, and the burden of his complaint was the lighting of the harbour. Pointing to the new light on Signal Hill with a scornful finger, he asked, "Can you see that light?" As I had had only one whisky-soda, I ventured the hesitating query, "Do you mean that bright light on the Taikoo wharf, or is it that one up above it blinking so fitfully and feebly?" "Yes," said the ancient one, "that's him, the one up above." Having delivered himself thusly, he continued: "Why, if the navigator of a ship wants to see that light he would have to climb up the hill with his ship, a proceeding which would not be likely to meet with the enthusiastic approval of his owners or the insurance company." It reminds one of the near-sighted individual who on seeing a notice on a lamp-post climbed up to read it, and was much disgusted on discovering that the notice ran, "Wet Paint."

In further conversation the ancient mariner pointed out that the light on Signal Hill was quite unnecessary, seeing that already there was a red buoy light guiding ships clear of all the dangers of Kowloon Bay. He suggested that the light on Signal Peak should be taken down, its power intensified, and placed where it would be of some value to shipping. As the Hon. Mr. Pollock raised the question some time ago of the necessity for lighting the entrance to the Canton river, it might not be out of place to suggest that a desirable home for the light could be found at Capsimun Pass.

The visit of the Dutch squadron to Hongkong recalls the almost forgotten fact that three Netherlands ships of war were here nine years ago, and that when they went north to Shanghai they saved the situation there, so far as that port was concerned, at the time of the Boxer outbreak. They were the only ships of war present when the danger was most imminent. Another interesting fact is that the Hon. Mr. Hewett, who was then Chairman of the Shanghai Municipality, received a decoration from the young Queen of Holland for the part he took in the reception accorded to the Dutch cruisers.

When the East Indies Squadron return here in the early part of November it might be possible to arrange sports in which the men of all services could participate. It should be remembered that the Hollanders have acquired the football craze, and though they are not so expert with the leather as some of our best teams, they will doubtless be able to put up a good game.

RODERICK RANDOM.

The death is announced of Mr. George Baker, Superintendent of the Cosmopolitan and International Docks, Shanghai. The late Mr. Baker was a valued employee of the Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd., and had been in the service of that firm and its predecessor, Messrs. S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co., Ltd., for several years. He was a man who was well-liked and respected by all who knew him, says the *N. C. Daily News*. The late Mr. Baker married Miss Black, daughter of the late Mr. Daniel Black, who was for many years dockmaster at the Old Dock. He leaves a widow and two young daughters. Mr. Baker went to the General Hospital a short time ago suffering from dysentery but his friends did not realize that his condition was critical until quite late in the week.

HONGKONG.

Dr. G. M. Harston left for home via Siberia on Saturday on a holiday. He was accompanied by his brother, Mr. J. Scott Harston.

H.E. the Governor has been accepted the resignation by Lieutenant Ross of his Commission in the Hongkong Volunteer Corps, with effect from the 24th August, 1909.

We understand that the Hongkong Amateur Dramatic Club has obtained permission from Mr. Bandmann (who has secured sole rights in the matter) to play "The Toreador" during the coming season.

The only cases of communicable disease reported in the Colony of Hongkong last week were 1 of puerperal fever and three of enteric (1 Japanese, 1 British imported case, and 1 Chinese.)

His Majesty the King has not been advised to exercise his power of disallowance with respect to Ordinance No. 10 of 1909, entitled—An Ordinance to amend the Code of Civil Procedure.

His Excellency the Governor has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty the King, to the following Ordinance passed by the Legislative Council:—Ordinance No. 26 of 1909.—An Ordinance to amend the Magistrates and Criminal Law Amendment Ordinance, 1909.

An extract of meteorological observations made at the Hongkong Observatory during the month of August shows that the average maximum temperature during that period was 87.5, and the average minimum 78.8 degrees. The sun shone for 215.3 hours during the month, while the rainfall registered 8.340 inches.

Inspector Gourlay prosecuted a Chinese shopkeeper for having 288 cases of arrack and spirits of wine without a licence. Mr. Goldring, who appeared for the defence, tendered a plea of guilty, and pleaded for a small penalty, as his client would have to forfeit the liquor, which was worth about \$1,700. In these circumstances Mr. Hazeland imposed a fine of \$5.

A large congregation assembled at St. Peter's Church yesterday morning when the Right Rev. Bishop Lander publicly dedicated the new reredos and pulpit, the gift of Sir Paul Chater, and a handsome brass lectern, from an anonymous donor, as well as the brass altar rail presented by the Church Council. His Lordship preached the sermon and the service was fully choral. The pulpit and reredos are the work of Messrs. Leigh and Orange.

Mr. Luiz Maria Xavier, the proprietor and manager of "The Eastern Printing Press," died on Sept. 7th at his residence in Kowloon, after a prolonged illness. Not long ago the deceased lost one of his brothers and lately his wife, and this series of misfortunes aggravated his impaired health and accelerated his death. The deceased leaves two sons and one daughter to mourn his loss. The funeral, which took place yesterday at 6 p.m., was largely attended.

The Governor has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty the King, to the following Ordinances passed by the Legislative Council:—Ordinance No. 23 of 1909.—An Ordinance to amend and consolidate the Laws relating to Opium and its Compounds. Ordinance No. 24 of 1909.—An Ordinance to amend the Rating Ordinance, 1901. Ordinance No. 25 of 1909.—An Ordinance to amend the Dogs Ordinance, 1893.

Returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st August, 1909, as certified by the managers of the respective banks:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
	\$	\$
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China...	3,786,696	4,000,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.	12,235,500	13,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited	52,845	Nil.
Total	\$16,075,041	17,000,000

The troopship *Soudan* is due here, northward bound, on the 17th prox. She is taking the 1st Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers to Tientsin. The Camerons are being transferred to Madras.

A remarkable case of suicide was committed at the Naval Yard on Monday night by one of the Chinese employees who cut off his left hand with a chopper and expired two or three hours later. Doubtless he was deranged when he took his life in such a manner.

Mr. Frank Lammert, hon. secretary of the V.R.C., on Sept. 9 received a wire from the secretary of the Shanghai International Swimming Club stating that the men who are to represent the northern port in the forthcoming carnival at Hongkong will most probably leave there on the 17th instant.

Before Lieut. C. W. Beckwith, R.N., at the Marine Magistrate's Court on Sept. 7 Mr. A. G. Gordon, manager of the Hongkong Steam Launch Co., prosecuted the masters of three cargo and two passenger boats for making their craft fast to the steam launch *Ilha de Dom Joao* while that vessel was under way. After hearing the evidence his Worship fined three of the defendants \$10 each. A fourth was fined \$2 and the other was discharged, as he proved that his boat was in Causeway Bay at the time.

A smart capture was effected by P. S. Watt on the steamer *Kwangtung* on Wednesday evening. The purser informed the officer that there was a Chinaman travelling first class about whom he had suspicions. Sergt. Watt interviewed the man and in the cabin found silk to the value of \$200. He arrested the man on suspicion, and about an hour later a tailor in Jervois Street reported that one of his men had stolen the silk from his shop. Mr. Wood, before whom the man was brought on Sept. 9, sentenced him to three months' imprisonment.

What is described as a doubtful story was reported to the police on Sunday. A tallyman states that when he was crossing from Victoria to Kowloon in a sampan in the early hours of Sunday morning an unknown launch ran into the sampan, with the result that all the occupants were thrown into the water. The sampan crew, consisting of a woman and two young people, were drowned, as also a man who had a leather handbag containing \$3,000. The water police are investigating the matter, but the story is regarded as doubtful.

After an immunity extending to six weeks typhoon alarms have again descended on the Colony. The green vertical lights were showing on Wednesday night, and Thursday the black cone and drum indicated that the typhoon was to the south-east. At eight o'clock a change of direction was noted, south of the Colony. As usual, the shelters for small craft were crowded, few sampans or lighters remaining to continue their work afloat. The warning issued by the American Consulate was that a cyclone or typhoon was over the north China Sea, moving W. N. W.

A clever little enterprise was frustrated by a lukong in the early hours of on the 6th inst. A Chinese was discovered very busy in front of the window of a shop in Des Vœux Road, and when the lukong came along he noticed that the man had a bamboo with a nail at the end with which he was trying to hook clothes from the wall inside. The alarm was given, but when the inmates attempted to come out they found that the door had been tied with rope, a precaution taken by the enterprising man to prevent his being chased in the event of discovery. However the lukong took him to the lock-up and yesterday the Magistrate sent him to prison for six weeks.

A Chinese from the north bought a spirit lamp at the Sincere Company on Sunday and having tried the greater part of the night to light it without result he went to the shop on Monday in a rage and demanded his money back. He was offered the pick of the shop, but he would not accept the offer, and finally he was offered the lamp and his money to go away. He became more noisy than ever and finally put his foot through a glass case. Mr. Wood, before whom the case was heard, sentenced him to pay a fine of four dollars and to pay 60 cents compensation. Another man who stole a razor and a knife from the same place was committed to prison for 14 days.

A shroff in the employ of Messrs. Watson and Co's dispensary at Kowloon appeared before Mr. Wood at the Magistracy yesterday on a charge of embezzling small sums amounting to over \$100. Defendant said he was only a day or two overdue with his payments, some of which he lost and the remainder he utilised for the expense of his wedding. The case was adjourned until the 9th inst.

An interesting case was heard at the Magistracy on Sept. 3 when the owner of a shop in Connaught Road was charged with being in possession of opium. The evidence for the prosecution was that information was brought to the Opium Farmer that opium was being hidden in his shop, and when the premises were raided a handbag containing opium was found, and a purse containing money. Defendant explained that two women had come from Macao to his place, and leaving the handbag and the purse in his custody went out for a walk but did not return. In the circumstances the prosecution withdrew the charge.

There was a naval wedding at St. John's Cathedral on Saturday, Miss Edith Scobel Clap, of the Matilda Hospital, being married to Dr. A. T. Dartley, R.N. The Rev. A. Hughes, R.N., officiated, assisted by the Rev. F. T. Johnson. Deputy Inspector-General Tait, R.N., gave away the bride, who was attended by Miss Rose and Miss Tait as bridesmaids. Dr. Fitzwilliams acted as best man. Naval officers lined the aisle forming an arch with their swords as the newly-wedded pair left the Church. The bride's dress was of corded silk trimmed with Brussels lace and pearl passementaire with a tulle veil over a tiarra of orange blossoms. The bridesmaids wore white embroidered muslin and *vieux rose* dresses and gold naval crown brooches, the gifts of the bridegroom. The bride also carried a bouquet of white lotus lilies, while the bridesmaids had pink bouquets. The bridesmaids' hats were trimmed with roses and sheaf corn.

DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN GERMAN RESIDENT.

Mr. C. Koch, a well-known resident of the Colony and manager of the firm of Messrs. Lamke and Rogge, died at the Government Civil Hospital on Sunday. Deceased, who has been ailing for sometime decided to undergo an operation, but this proved fatal. Mr. Koch, who was a member of the Hongkong Club and the Club Germania, has been in the Colony for the past ten or twelve years, and the news of his death was learned with regret by the large circle of friends he had made here.

THE LANDING OF FOREIGN TROOPS IN HONGKONG.

NEW REGULATIONS.

The following regulations made by the Governor-in-Council under the Merchant Shipping Ordinance appear in the current *Gazette*:—

1. Foreign Ships-of-War shall not make any examination or survey of the shores or waters of the Colony either from such ships or by means of boats or otherwise.

2. Foreign Soldiers or Sailors, if unarmed, may be landed in the Colony within the harbour limits, without the prior consent of the Governor, provided that when it is desired to land a number of men exceeding one hundred, notice must be given by the Senior Officer in command of the Foreign Ships or Troops concerned to the Colonial Secretary, in order that all facilities of which local conditions admit may be given. Applications for permission to land armed parties in connection with funerals or to take part in public ceremonies of an exceptional nature will be addressed to the Governor through the Colonial Secretary by the Senior Officer in command of the Foreign Ships or Troops concerned. No application is necessary in the case of Officers.

3. No Foreign Soldiers or Sailors shall be landed in the Colony outside the harbour limits from any vessel without the permission of the Governor, for which application must be made by the Senior Officer in command of the Foreign Ships or Troops concerned.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on Sept. 10 in the Council Chamber.

The following were present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR FREDERICK, JOHN DEALTRY LUGARD, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.

HIS EXCELLENCY COLONEL C. H. DARLING (General Officer Commanding).

Hon. Mr. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Mr. C. M. I. MESSER (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Mr. P. N. H. JONES (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Mr. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).

Hon. Mr. F. J. BADELEY (Capt. Superintendent of Police).

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, M.B., C.M.G.

Hon. Mr. W. J. GRESSON.

Hon. Mr. E. OSBORNE.

Hon. Mr. E. A. HEWETT.

Hon. Mr. MURRAY STEWART.

Hon. Mr. WEI YUK, C.M.G.

Mr. C. CLEMENTI (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee (No. 14) and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

LIQUOR LICENCES.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY withdrew the resolution standing in his name under section 6 of the Liquor Licences Extension Ordinance, 1908.

LIQUOR ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to provide for the collection of a Revenue of Excise upon Intoxicating Liquors.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

The Bill provides that there shall be paid upon intoxicating liquors hereafter imported into, distilled, made or prepared in the Colony the following duties:—

On all spirituous liquors, ... \$3.20 per gallon

On all sparkling wines, ... \$2.00 per gallon

On all still wines, ... \$1.33 per gallon

On all other intoxicating li-

quors, excepting native

wines and spirits, ... \$0.32 per gallon

On all native wines and spirits, \$0.15 per gallon

It shall be lawful for the Legislative Council at any time by resolution to alter or amend all or any of the foregoing duties.

HIS EXCELLENCY—The Bill before the Council which we propose to read a first time to-day overlaps, and to some extent supercedes, two other items which stand on the agenda. In the first case the resolution introduced on the 13th August last, and secondly, the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Liquor Licences Ordinance, 1898, and the Liquor Licences Extension Ordinance, 1908, and to repeal the Liquor Licences Amendment Ordinance, 1902. Before this resolution was introduced into the Council last

August the two comparative systems of raising revenue on intoxicating liquors, namely, by increasing licences and import duties, received my most careful and earnest consideration.

When I spoke to that resolution I used the following words: "Beyond doubt it seems to me the simplest and fairest method, and the most advantageous to the revenue would be the imposition, so far as European liquor is concerned, of import dues." I further said, "it falls equally on all sections of the community, upon private importers and upon service canteens, as well as upon the trade." The difficulties surrounding the effective collection of such duties appeared to me to be so many and so serious that we considered that the increase in licence fees was on the whole preferable. I was aware and fully alive to the fact that they would tend to create a monopoly in the hands of a few capitalists, who might put up prices of liquors with no limit except the limit of their desire for profits, and without any benefit to the

revenue. I was aware that it might create a hardship on some of the smaller dealers. I foresaw that it would be necessary also, if licences were put up, to tax clubs either on their turnover or by licences, and I saw it would inevitably tend to increase private imports by non-licencees. In spite of these difficulties the resolution was introduced to the Council, for after mature consideration the difficulties surrounding the imposition of import duties seemed to be even greater, especially as regards Chinese liquor. In a greater or less degree import duties means a Customs service as far as the collection of duties is concerned, a service to prevent evasion of duties and a system of bonded warehouses. The proximity of Hongkong to the mainland, and to the free port of Macao, seemed also to increase the liability of smuggling, and that fear of smuggling is also enhanced by the known venality and inefficiency of the Chinese detective service when under the supervision of Europeans. Liquor once smuggled into the Colony cannot be detected like the opium of the opium farmer, and therefore once it is in, there is little further risk to the smuggler. Then there is the difficulty of dealing with liquor imported for re-export after blending and bottling, which must either involve an elaborate system of rebates or of bonded warehouses in which such operations must be carried on. I am informed also that goods are largely imported into this Colony to order; that is to say that the name of the consignee does not appear on the case. If liquor were thus imported in disguised packages and were discovered, it is possible—probable—that there would be no claimant for it, as we have often found in the case of smuggled morphia and firearms, for it is a curious thing that when cases are detected it invariably appears to leak out. The importer therefore suffers no penalty other than the forfeiture of the whole or part of his consignment, which he could well afford in view of profit to be made on undetected consignments. I need not, however, go into the difficulties in detail. They are well known to you, and some of them have been discussed in the local Press. The resolution of August 13th had, as I anticipated, the result of focussing public attention upon the question. The unofficial members consulted the views of their constituents, and I received from the senior unofficial member a copy of the resolutions passed at the meeting in which they embodied their views. Looking at the thorny nature of the question at issue it has struck me as a remarkable fact that those resolutions were passed unanimously without a single reservation on the part of any individual member, and so strongly did the members uphold those views that they took the somewhat unusual course of sending them to the Press for public information, confident that they would meet with the approval of the community. The senior unofficial member said his colleagues would like to discuss the subject with me. I gladly acceded to this proposal, and a very useful and interesting discussion took place upon the first resolution, which runs as follows: "That a duty be imposed on all foreign and Chinese alcoholic liquors imported and consumed in this Colony. Liquors supplied to ships in unbroken cases for consumption on board, and liquors re-exported, to be exempt from duty." In that description I pointed out the difficulties which I have already alluded to, and others which I have not to-day dealt with in detail. In some cases effective answers were given; in others difficulties were made light of or gave way to optimistic forecasts. I will confess that I was myself a willing convert, and wished if possible to give the import duties a trial. Assuming that import duties are levied on intoxicating liquors, three methods of collection present themselves. First, by a contract under tender, leaving the contractor to provide all machinery for collection. It is not fair to call such a system by the name of farm, for no monopoly, either of import or of manufacture is given, and it is simply a contract for the collection of duties instead of the Government collecting them. One drawback to this system, as I have already pointed out in connection with the resolution regarding licence fees, is that the contractor's profits form an extra burden on the community, and are additional to the amount paid in as revenue, but

that, of course, is the essence of all contracts, including contracts for railways and public works. Another drawback is that the contractor must deduct from the amount of his tender the whole cost of the machinery for collection, whereas the Government could to a certain extent use the machinery it has, namely, the Harbour Office, the Police Department, the Treasury and other departments of the Government. But still it is conceivable that in calling for such a tender, the machinery of the Government may to some extent be made available to the contractor and so decrease his expenses. A year or two ago, in discussing the question of the railway, I had occasion to state my views to the Council regarding the contract system and its advantages and disadvantages, and I observed that in my opinion the contract system had great disadvantages, when it was likely there would be an alteration in the contract subsequent to the signature by the contracting parties. Under this Bill there would be no alteration of contract. In this Bill there is nothing which precludes the system of contract either for European or Chinese liquor should it be found more expedient to adopt later such a system. At the present time, however, there is great prejudice against it, prejudice which I put down to a confusion of ideas between a contract for the collection of duties such as I have described and a farm such as the opium farm. You will remember that under the contract there is no right of search of private houses or persons or vessels, and that therefore the two most objectionable features of the farm are eliminated. The second method of collecting import duties is to prohibit the sale of any liquor except in vessels bearing a revenue label which would have to be broken in order to extract the liquor. Under such a system it would be illegal to have in possession any vessel containing liquor except with a broken or unbroken label. The label would bear a revenue stamp proportionate in value to the quantity and value of the vessel containing the liquor. Labelled cases would in addition be branded and numbered and entered in a book by the revenue officer. The system has some advantages. Detection would be so easy. The contravention of the law would be so palpable to servants and others that the risk would be too great to be incurred by people occupying respectable positions in the Colony. Its cost is negligible, for it involves no machinery. Private importers would import through an agent, who would have the labelling done for them or the labelling could be done in a government warehouse. The wholesale dealers would have to stamp before sale and would get a rebate for re-exportation. A reasonable time would be given for the consumption of existing stocks, either three or six months. This system has of course its advantages. It involves to some extent domiciliary visits. It involves the opening of cases, and I am told that the cases in which liquor is imported is a very important item. (Hon. Mr. Murray Stewart—Hear, hear.) Broken and damaged cases are not so saleable. The system of farms forms another alternative to the system of collection by Government, a method perhaps to be resorted to if the system we now propose to introduce should fail. Lastly, there is the system to which we propose to give a trial. That is to say, the collection by Government of duties on importation combined with the minimum possible of Customs preventive service. The simplest way in which I can describe that system would be the examination briefly of the main provisions of the Bill before you. So far as it is applicable the Bill is based on the Liquor Ordinance of the Straits Settlements. The duties that we propose to impose are the same as those in the Straits. They are, roughly speaking, so far as spirits are concerned, half the existing duties levied in England. Hon. members have noticed in the papers that it is proposed in the new Budget to increase these duties by about 33 per cent. The duty imposed on Chinese liquors is, of course, not identical with that in the Straits, but the duty is, as I am informed by the Registrar-General, acceptable and considered fair by the Chinese community. The advantage of that system is that every quality of liquor of the same class pays alike, and therefore there is a tendency to improve the class of liquor consumed in the Colony. (Hon. Mr. Murray Stewart—Hear, hear.)

Liquor of all kinds pays upon import unless it is removed under permit for storage in bond. It must be stored in bond either in the King's warehouse or in a private licensed warehouse. If it is placed in bond it remains under the definition in the Bill of "dutiable liquor," and cannot be taken out of bond except under the permit of the inspector or on payment of the duty, in which case it can only be removed in unbroken cases. Bottling, and blending, and watering down proof spirits and so on, can be done in a private warehouse. This system avoids the necessity for labelling rebates on re-exportation. It also avoids the difficult task of tests of proof and avoids the necessity of any special marks on labels. Ships must declare their imports of intoxicating drinks. Their manifests show all liquor on board, and it is urged they have already a legal remedy against one who imports by the ship liquor disguised as any other wares. The system of the private licensed bonded warehouse obviates the necessity of searching any public godowns, and therefore the risk of illicit consignment to order decreases, as also the risk to some extent of smuggling. The licence fee for private licensed warehouses is somewhat high, but it is the same as imposed in the Straits Settlements. Wholesale dealers who import for re-export can afford a fairly large fee, and the establishment of private licensed warehouses involves considerable supervision and an extra staff to the government. Upon liquor distilled, manufactured or prepared in the Colony, an excise duty is imposed equal to the import duty. Imports, of course, have to pay freight, while licencees of distilleries, breweries, etc., have to pay a licence. Hitherto apparently the two have been fairly equal. That is to say, that import of liquor has competed on fair terms with liquor of local manufacture. If it should appear that the excise duty in any way handicaps the local manufacture it may be a matter for consideration whether that excise duty should not be increased to a small extent. The place where the liquor is distilled or manufactured is treated for the purpose of this Ordinance as a private licensed warehouse from which no liquor may emanate until it has paid duty, unless it is removed under permit for export. Therefore, it eventuates that all liquor in transit and all liquor dealt with in the Colony are duty free. They only pay such fees as may be charged for storage in the King's warehouse or in private licensed warehouses. The Bill therefore in no way affects this port as a distributing centre. It only affects licences on liquor consumed in the Colony. The preamble of the Bill shows that it is avowedly of the nature of hasty legislation because it is inevitable that any Bill introduced in this Council imposing a new duty should be passed with expedition in order to guard against imports in anticipation. I hope that even the hon. member who represents the Justices of the Peace will not find occasion to cavil at the hasty nature of this legislation, and that he and all others will assist the Government in passing it in the shortest possible time. In my anxiety to allow ample time for the fullest consideration of this very important subject, together with the difficulty of drafting a long Ordinance of this class, and also I may add the pressure on our time caused by the passing of the lengthy Opium Consolidation Ordinance, the present Bill has been deferred to the last possible moment. I hope that we may be able to pass it at our next meeting. The Bill itself is only provisional, and I would undertake to introduce so soon as possible the consolidating Ordinance so that hon. members may have an opportunity to deal with the question of licence fees under the existing Ordinance, which are not touched at all by the Bill now before the Council. The schedule which was the subject of the resolution of August 13th will take a new form, and although it is a matter which has nothing to do with the Bill before us, it will perhaps be convenient if I state at once that there is no intention on the part of the Government that the schedule should be amended to increase the existing licence fees. Meanwhile they remain as they are. The Bill as it stands gives somewhat large powers to the Governor-in-Council in order to make regulations to carry out the principles which are embodied in it. You will note especially that no methods are

indicated as to how duties on Chinese liquors shall be dealt with. Regulations on such a subject will no doubt require somewhat frequent amendment before we can elaborate a complete and serviceable scheme. When they have been elaborated those of them which are of sufficient importance will be embodied in the new consolidating Ordinance, and this Council will then have an opportunity of thoroughly discussing them. I think that in the circumstances in which we are placed this is a most practicable and most useful course. Meanwhile you will notice that it has been reserved for to the Legislative Council modify either the scale of duties or the fees charged on all new licences created, that is to say, the fee for private bonded warehouses and the fee for what we call chemists' licences. I will add one word concerning Part VI. which gives certain powers of search. Those powers are necessary, but it shall be my special care to see that they are not arbitrarily or unnecessarily exercised. They are adopted from the Straits Ordinance, but that Ordinance also gives power for domiciliary and personal search, both of which have been eliminated as unnecessary here. The powers retained are, in fact, the minimum necessary. I would remind you that these powers already exist under the Opium Consolidating Ordinance which we passed a few days ago. It is unlikely that any respectable people would have their baggage interfered with, but without such powers any coolie could bring into the Colony a handbag full of liquor either foreign or Chinese and could defy the revenue officer. It is necessary for the Government to have power in reserve to protect its revenue and also to have power to protect those who are paying their full duties and those who are paying licence fees. It is specially necessary as regards *samsu*, and we cannot impose it on one class of liquor to the exclusion of others. The search of godowns is, I think you will all admit, a very necessary power. That already exists in the case of morphia and arms. The stringency with which that search is prosecuted will entirely depend upon the co-operation of the firms in the Colony to assist the Government in preventing smuggling if they cannot do it alone. I am told that the intimate knowledge which the various firms have of each other will be sufficient to prevent any systematic smuggling. I can assure you there is no one at this table who is more jealously anxious to safeguard Hongkong as a free port than I am myself. (Applause.) We propose to provide only a small preventive service, relying, as I said, on the co-operation of the big firms in the Colony, on the heavy penalties against any offenders under this Ordinance, and the risk to their good name which will be involved on anyone who contravenes it. Liquor, after all, is not like drugs. It is a bulky article. The profit on smuggling it could only be worth while if the smuggling takes place in large quantities, whereas the profit on a single case of morphia is very large. The sole object of the Government in introducing this Bill is to raise revenue on intoxicating liquors in a way that will cause least inconvenience to the community and the least disturbance to trade. It is a difficult matter, the more so as the restrictions now placed on opium may tend to an increase in the consumption of liquor by the Chinese. Therefore, in selecting this particular form that is to say, a revenue from intoxicating liquors, we are acting not only in the interests of the revenue, but, as I take it, in the peace and good order of this Colony. Already I am informed that the Chinese community consume as much if not more foreign liquor than the Europeans. Our object is to tax the consumer and not the vendor. The latter has paid sufficient by paying the existing fees. The Bill before you is a sincere attempt to give effect to the wishes of the community as they are represented by the unofficial members of this Council. I look confidently to the unofficial members to assist the Government in passing this Bill at an early date, and I look confidently to the community to make it as effective when it has been passed. (Applause.)

Hon. Mr. HEWITT—Have I the right to reply, your Excellency?

HIS EXCELLENCY—It is usual for the debate to take place on the second reading unless you have anything special you wish to say.

Hon. Mr. HEWITT—I have a few remarks which I think it advisable to make, if you will allow me. I understand the member who represents the Justices of the Peace also wishes to say something, and it would rather clear the ground if you allowed us to say what we have in our minds. In the first place, we all know this Bill has of necessity been prepared somewhat hurriedly, and as a matter of fact I think no member of the Council had seen a copy of this Bill before yesterday afternoon. For myself I can only say that this morning was the first time I had an opportunity of carefully studying the provisions of the Bill. There is much to recommend it, but I think your Excellency, if you allow me to say so, is somewhat optimistic in the belief you have expressed as to the manner in which this Bill will be accepted by the community. The Bill appears to be in many respects highly contentious, and I think before it is passed very considerable modifications will be asked for. This is a new departure. We recognise the necessity for increasing the revenue of the Colony at a very early date, and therefore this change of administration must, of course, be carried through in the shortest possible time, but a Bill of this far-reaching importance cannot possibly be rushed through within a few weeks. It must be carefully considered not only by the legislators of the Colony but by the public at large. We must see in striving to make up the necessary increase in our revenue that we do not deal a serious blow to the trade of the Colony. The Bill requires to be modified to meet the views of the community at large, who are largely business men, as well as those engaged in that particular trade. When once a reasonable Bill is put before the Chamber your Excellency can rely upon the hearty and honest co-operation of the greater section of the community. This Bill does not, I think, meet the views of a certain section of the community, particularly in regard to domiciliary visits, and there are one or two points to which your Excellency referred, such as bottling, blending, and warehousing—a very important branch of the trade of the Colony—which require consideration. Your Excellency spoke of ships returning manifests of liquor on board, but, as I pointed out to your Excellency privately on a previous occasion, it seems to me that it might be a hardship to ask ships to return manifests of all the cargo of liquor on board. It should be only on the liquor landed in the Colony. Another question—and this is a debatable point which will be discussed in committee—is that the duties are altogether too high. Allowing for the profits and the expense of the spirit farm in the Straits Settlements the Government nets something like seven and a half lakhs. If we work on the same basis, we should expect, if the Bill is carried into force as it stands, to have a revenue of something over a million, especially as your Excellency has said that the cost of a preventive service would be very small. I thought it was right to ask your Excellency to allow me to make these remarks—I speak for myself only, as I have had no opportunity of consulting my unofficial colleagues—in order to show as far as I can understand, that this question will require much more consideration and possibly alteration than your Excellency seems to think desirable.

Hon. Mr. MURRAY STEWART—Your Excellency.—It is true, as the hon. member for the Chamber of Commerce has just said, that I had intended, with your permission, briefly to address the Council even at this early stage, with a view to accelerating the passage of the Bill. My idea is to indicate to the Government where their proposals are likely to excite opposition. Originally, opposition to putting on an import duty arose out of the fear that this could not be done without creating the whole paraphernalia of a Custom House. That fear I formerly shared. The idea seemed to be incompatible with the preservation of Hongkong as a free trade port. No one believes more firmly than I do in the absolute necessity for maintaining that. At an interview granted to the unofficial members at Government House, to which your Excellency has referred, I spoke strongly against examining the luggage of European passengers by ocean steamers. It was only because so many gentlemen, who are in a position to know how the trade is worked,

were found to maintain that such things need form no part of a scheme of import duty that I ever agreed to the idea of imposing one. In subscribing to the unofficial members' recommendation to impose one, I was actuated by the belief that such petty smuggling as might be improbably attempted from ocean steamers by European passengers need not seriously engage the attention of the Government, whose business of collecting the duty could be conducted through the Harbour Office on broad and simple lines calculated to create the least possible amount of friction. Only on such lines did I advocate an import duty, and only in so far as such lines are adhered to by the terms of the Bill does it command my support. I am opposed to the idea of granting immediately powers which provide for the institution of a Customs service—powers conferred by sections 30 to 35. The latter clause, providing for domiciliary visits, is particularly repugnant to me. Your Excellency has just said that you will undertake that these powers will not be invoked vexatiously. I am sure that such will always be your Excellency's desire. But, nevertheless, I deprecate putting such a power into the hands of subordinate officers until the absolute necessity for it has been proved to exist. I suggest that regulations conferring such powers might be made hereafter by resolutions of this Council, to be passed when, in the public interest, it is seen to be necessary. I suggest that the Government should so modify this Bill. I quite appreciate the necessity of enacting it quickly, if at all.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Before I put the motion I would like to correct a statement made by the hon. member who represents the Chamber of Commerce. I said that the duties are identical with those in the Straits Settlements. They appear perhaps larger in the Bill, but I think if the hon. member works them out on the basis of the fixed exchange in the Straits he will find they are exactly identical.

MAGISTRATES AND CRIMINAL LAW AMENDMENT ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Magistrates and Criminal Law Amendment Ordinance, 1909. In doing so he said—The object of the Bill is to repeal section 8 of the Magistrates' Criminal Law Amendment Ordinance of this year, which conferred power upon the Governor-in-Council to make certain limitations with regard to spitting in streets and other public places. The Chinese community, in the persons of those qualified to speak on their behalf, have undertaken to do all that this clause would give the Governor-in-Council power to do. In the circumstances the Government considered it better that such a matter should be regulated by the Chinese themselves.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the Bill was read a second time.

Council then resolved itself into a committee of the whole Council to consider the Bill clause by clause.

On resuming, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL reported that the Bill had passed through committee and moved that it be read a third time.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

MALICIOUS DAMAGE AMENDMENT ORDINANCE.
Council went into committee on the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Malicious Damage Ordinance, 1865.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—In the first place, the Committee will remember that we left for further consideration clauses 5 and 6 of the Bill, which deal with the penalties to be imposed for injuries to trees in the New Territories, and the mode of collecting the impositions. After discussing them with an unofficial member I propose to amend section 5 so as to make penalties fall only on those who reside within the area.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I have taken the opinion of the district officer in the New Territories on this subject, and he thinks the amendment now proposed will be quite satisfactory.

On Council resuming, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL reported that the Bill had passed through committee with slight amendment.

GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL RELIEF ORDINANCE.
Council went into committee to consider the Bill to relieve the Governor-in-Council of certain ministerial duties.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL stated that the Bill was left in committee to enable members to make themselves familiar with the provisions of the Ordinances which the Bill dealt with in the schedule.

On Council resuming, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL reported that the Bill had passed through committee.

ORDERS POSTPONED.

The following orders of the day were postponed—

Second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to authorize the Construction and Maintenance of a Harbour of Refuge upon and over certain portions of the Sea Bed and Fore-shore situated upon the Harbour frontage at Taikoktsui, Mongkoktsui and Yaumati, Kowloon, in this Colony.

Second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Tramway Ordinance, 1902.

Second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Liquor Licences Ordinance, 1898, and the Liquor Licences Extension Ordinance, 1908, and to repeal the Liquor Licences Amendment Ordinance, 1902.

Committee on the Bill entitled An Ordinance to set apart certain Crown Land to be used as a burial ground for persons professing the Christian Religion, other than members of the Roman Catholic Church.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Council will adjourn until Thursday next.

ALLEGED ABSCONDING OF A BRITISH RAILWAY ACCOUNTANT.

HEAVY DEFALCATIONS ALLEGED.

On Sept. 5th a great sensation was created in the Colony when it became known that Mr. W. Butler Wright, the accountant on the Chinese section of the Kowloon-Canton Railway, had disappeared under conditions which suggested that he had absconded under suspicion of heavy defalcations. Mr. Wright, who we understand, has had a long and honourable career in connection with railway undertakings, came from India to take up the duties of accountant on the Chinese section of the railway when it was commenced about a year ago, and enjoyed the confidence of the authorities. Consequently the news of his alleged absconding seems almost incredible. However there is every reason for believing that he has taken the step which marks the downfall of a man who was held in high esteem by a large number of friends and acquaintances.

The information to hand is that an auditor had been engaged on the books recently, and possibly fearing that explanations would be asked for, Mr. Wright took advantage of the earliest opportunity to leave Canton. His disappearance was not noted until Friday, but by that time he had got a good start. Apparently he came down from Canton to Hongkong on Thursday, and though the local police were not apprised of his disappearance until Friday night they succeeded in tracing his movements in town. They learned that he left by the Japanese steamer *Tenyo Maru*, bound for San Francisco via Keelung, Shanghai and Japan ports. Should he land at Shanghai he is almost sure to be captured by the police, but it is thought most probable that he will try to get to Japan from Formosa, transshipping at Keelung. If he succeeds in reaching Japan it is believed that he will be immune from extradition, as there is no treaty between Britain and Japan.

The defalcations, it is alleged, amount to something like \$50,000. It is thought they cover a fairly long period, and it is further reported that he got away with a sum of money drawn at the end of the month from the Bank in payment of the wages of the staff.

Mr. Wright was a frequent visitor to Hongkong, where he was well known, and in Canton he enjoyed a reputation for liberality, entertaining lavishly.

News reached the Colony on Monday night that Mr. Butler Wright had been arrested at Woosung.

The proceedings at the Police Court in Shanghai are reported as follows:—

William Butler Wright, accountant, a man of middle age, was brought up before the Court

and informed by the Magistrate that a warrant had been issued by the Consul-General at Canton for his arrest on a charge of fraudulently embezzling \$13,000 on December 30, 1908, at Canton. His Worship added that the procedure would probably be that the Consul-General at Canton would send his warrant to Shanghai, and all his Worship could do at this stage was to take evidence of arrest and remand the accused until the warrant arrived from Canton.

The Accused—In the meantime may I live at the Astor House under surveillance? I can satisfy the Court by going to the bank that I have means.

His Worship—No. I cannot do anything of that sort. I shall have to remand you in the custody of the British gaol, and if you wish to communicate with the bank or a lawyer you can do so.

The Accused—Before you actually commit me, may I attend to one or two matters of business with one of the constables?

His Worship—No, I do not think I can. What sort of business is it?

The Accused—I should like to send a cable or two and make some arrangements with my bank for some funds.

His Worship—If you can get the prison authorities to agree to that, all right; but it will be then out of my hands. I cannot make any order in this Court. You have acknowledged that you are William Butler Wright.

The Accused—Yes, but I was wrongfully arrested.

His Worship—Why?

The Accused—On the warrant.

His Worship—You mean that the charge is wrong?

The Accused—Yes, it is a false charge. There has been no embezzlement.

His Worship—Well, the warrant has been issued at Canton, and I know nothing beyond that. I can speak to the Consular authorities, who are in charge of the gaol, and they may be able to see their way to allow you to have this communication, but it is in their hands.

Det.-Sgt. Gibson, sworn, stated that in company with Det. Ray he proceeded to Woosung that morning at about eight o'clock. He went on board the *Tenyo Maru*, and arrested the accused there. Witness gave the usual caution and the accused did not make any statement.

His Worship announced that accused would be remanded for seven days in the custody of the British gaol authorities, but that he might be brought up sooner on the arrival of the warrant from Canton. The accused would be allowed to see Mr. Barton with regard to his application, and his Worship would also communicate with him.

Wright then left the Court with a British Consular constable.

HONGKONG UNIVERSITY.

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT PROMISE SCHOLARSHIPS.

We are informed that the Executive Council has received a telegram from the Secretary of State for the Colonies communicating the information that the Imperial Government approves of the establishment of a University at Hongkong, and that £300 annually will be voted for scholarships.

MILITARY FUNERAL AT MACAO.

The remains of Captain Isaac, Pinto of the Portuguese Artillery Company at Macao, who was shot at his desk on Monday by a sentry, were interred on Tuesday with full military honours. The Governor, accompanied by his two A.D.C.'s, walked at the head of the cortege, and there was a large attendance of military, and civil officials and the general public.

What led to the tragedy is not yet known. Captain Pinto had not been long in Macao, but had become well known and greatly esteemed. He was unmarried. The sympathy of the community is extended to his aged father in Portugal.

We regret to learn of the death on Friday at Yokohama of Mr A. Chaix, the agent in that port of the Messageries Maritimes.

HONGKONG'S DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

THE REGENT'S BROTHER AND ADMIRAL SAH.

About 8.30 on Wednesday morning the booming of a Royal salute announced to residents that the Chinese cruiser *Haichi*, accompanied by the gunboat *Haishin*, had arrived from Foochow with Prince Tsai-Hsun and Admiral Sah on board, and the greatest interest was at once manifested in the doings of the distinguished visitors. The cruiser and gunboat mentioned were not the only representatives of the Chinese navy, there being other ships in attendance flying the yellow dragon. One was recognised as the old *Pochontas*, which has been transformed at Whampoa into a training ship. The Chinese warships as well as those of other nationalities in the harbour were all decorated in honour of the occasion, and in the city itself the Chinese flag flaunted from a number of premises, in many places being side by side with the British flag.

Great disappointment was occasioned by a report that the Prince and the Admiral would not make an official landing. In expectation of this a dense crowd of Chinese had gathered in the vicinity of Blake Pier, and though they learned that the visitors would not come ashore till late in the afternoon many remained in the neighbourhood. The official landing, it was said, would not take place because of the members of the Imperial Family being still in mourning, but the report proved incorrect. At four o'clock the Prince and Admiral came ashore and made an official call on His Excellency at Government House. His Imperial Highness was received on landing by a guard of honour of the Buffs, consisting of 100 rank and file, and a salute of 21 guns was fired from the shore battery. His Excellency the Governor returned His Imperial Highness' call at Glenealy Building at 5 o'clock.

Later His Imperial Highness and the Admiral proceeded to the Ko Shing Theatre, where they were entertained to a banquet by the Chinese community, over which Mr. Lau Chu Pak presided. The rather bare interior of the theatre was transformed by the skill and taste of the decorators employed, and the effect was remarkable, the floral adornments and the display of flags combining to produce a bright and beautiful picture. There was a big attendance and the proceedings were most interesting.

A large table was placed in the centre of the theatre. One side was reserved for the Prince and the others who sat, there were the Admiral, the commanders, members of the suite and Mr. Lau Chu Pak. At the entrance to the building the distinguished visitors were met by members of the Reception Committee and after they had been shown the platform Mr. Lau Chu Pak said a few words of welcome. The visitors were each handed a cup of tea, and the ceremony of bowing to the Prince and the Admiral took place, His Royal Highness and Admiral Sah bowing their acknowledgments. The company then sat down to dinner and in an interval the address was given.

The address delivered by Mr. Lau Chu Pak, as approved by the members of the Reception Committee, was as follows:—"His Royal Highness Prince Hsun and His Excellency Admiral Sah on their way to inspect, under Imperial instruction, the various ports on the China sea coast, pass through Hongkong on the 24th day of the first year of the reign of Hsun Tung. Now that the remotest waterways of China are being opened up, it necessitates the planning out and the opening up of the maritime provinces. Upon the strength of the Navy the stability of the nation rests. It is, therefore, one of the urgent needs of the day that China should include in her programme of reform the reconstruction of her Navy. The visit of His Royal Highness, an enterprising man in the prime of youth, and the nearest relation of the Imperial Family, aided by such an experienced and highly patriotic officer as Admiral Sah, should be productive of good results. The Chinese merchants during their sojourn in this corner of the seaboard of China naturally take an interest in what is transpiring on the mainland, and are much gratified by the movement on foot. This ordinary dinner is given by them as a token of esteem for the distinguished visitors."

The address concluded with quotations wishing the Prince and the Admiral every success and happiness.

The Prince's reply was read by Captain Ching of the *Haichi* who said that the Prince and the Admiral had been ordered by the Throne to take steps to reform the Navy and to make a cruise around the northern and southern provinces. His Royal Highness was pleased to be received by so many Chinese merchants in Hongkong. They were agreed that the reform of the Navy was a necessary step, and as they were so loyal and kind he felt sure they would all work together to reform the navy. To do so they must raise funds and secure docks, but that was not all. They wanted officers and they wanted men, and he hoped the authorities and the people would work together to achieve the end they had in view.

The Prince and Admiral left the theatre before nine o'clock and went on board. They were expected to leave for Canton shortly afterwards.

Prince Hsun and Admiral Sah left Hongkong about midnight on Wednesday on board the cruiser *Haishin* bound for Whampoa and Canton. His Royal Highness created a good impression here by receiving a body of Chinese merchants before granting an audience to the officials from Canton.

His Royal Highness Prince Hsun and His Excellency Admiral Sah, having made their visit to Whampoa, where they inspected the forts and afterwards visited the military college there and subsequently visited Canton, returned to Hongkong on Friday on board the cruiser *Haichi*, which was accompanied by the *Haishin* and other warships flying the Chinese flag.

It was expected that the distinguished visitors would make an official landing at 12.30, but they did not come ashore until 1.30, when a royal salute was fired from the land battery. At Blake Pier they were received by a guard of honour furnished by the Buffs. The band was also in attendance and played appropriate music as the Prince and the Admiral stepped ashore. They entered chairs and were escorted to Government House, where they were received by His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard. Luncheon was given there in honour of the distinguished visitors, those invited including: His Excellency Kao Erh Chien, Captain Wu, Kwong Tsung, Commodore Lyon, Lieut. Blanchflower, His Excellency Colonel Darling, Captain Stewart, Hon. Mr. P.N.H. Jones, Mr. H. Harris, Hon. Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., Hon. Mr. McL. Messer, Sir Paul Chater, Hon. Mr. E.A. Hewett, Hon. Mr. A.W. Brewin, Captain Badeley, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Hon. Wei Yuk, Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson, Mr. Mr. Justice Gompertz, Hon. Mr. E. Osborne, Hon. Murray Stewart, Mr. D. R. Law, Mr. J. R. M. Smith, Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Mr. Ng Li Hing and Toatai Wan.

After luncheon His Excellency proposed the toast "The King," which was loyally received.

His Excellency afterwards proposed the toast of "His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China," and in doing so said: "We have to-day the pleasure and privilege of welcoming His Highness, who, as President of the Board of Admiralty, in which large office he succeeds his illustrious father, Prince Chun, is visiting the seaboard of China and is about to proceed to Europe to study naval matters. In the past, as in the present, our nation has ever been ready to assist China in training her naval officers; and we have with us to-day, in the person of Admiral Sah, a very distinguished naval officer who began his naval education in Great Britain. I am glad that the first foreign community to welcome His Royal Highness in his tour is a British Colony, and we can all assure him of a most cordial welcome and of assistance in his projects when he visits England. I propose to you the health of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China, and I ask you to couple with it the name of His Royal Highness and to wish him success on a pleasant voyage."

His Imperial Highness in his reply said that as Great Britain had the best navy, they wished to study naval matters in that country. He reciprocated the sentiments expressed.

Taotai Wan interpreted the speeches.

The Prince and Admiral returned on board shortly afterwards, and a salute was fired at five o'clock as they were leaving the harbour.

The Chinese Navy musters some half a dozen cruisers and a larger number of gunboats, but it can only be regarded as the nucleus of the future naval fighting force of the Empire. The *Haichi* is perhaps the most modern of the cruisers. She is more than ten years old, but looks quite serviceable. Admiral Sah, who was trained in the British Navy, has his little force well trained, and the tars are very smart and business-like in their movements. The Admiral, dark-complexioned, slimly built, smartly-uniformed, is not typical of the bluff sailor. He is most gentlemanly and urbane, and he gives place to no one in his admiration for the British. He was born in 1849.

The Prince and the Admiral are to give effect to the findings of the Commission in reference to the preliminary reorganization of the Chinese Navy. The Commission consisted of the President of the Council, the Ministers of War, Finance, and Home Affairs, and Admiral Sachien-ping. The recommendations were that there shall be regarded as if in commission at present, four cruisers, 16 torpedo-boats, ten Yangtze River gunboats, 21 coast patrol vessels, and four training ships. They are to be examined, and if found unserviceable to be put out of commission. The naval base is to be Nimrod Sound. There will also be four naval schools; a navigation school for 320 cadets at Chefoo, an engineering school for 300 at Whampoa, a school for naval artificers at Foochow, a superior naval college at Peking, besides a gunnery and musketry school in Nimrod Sound. The four existing dockyards are to be reorganized and equipped, as that at Kiangnan is already, for outside mercantile work—namely, at Whampoa, Kiangnan, near Shanghai, Foochow and Taku. The Naval Department is to have control of the coast defence.

A Naval and Military Advisory Board has been created. This is a step towards creating an Imperial Navy under one central control, and discontinuing the present obsolete system of four naval sections under the separate Viceroyalties of Canton, Nanking, Foochow, and Tientsin. The money at present allotted for the maintenance of the navy is divided among these four Viceroyalties, and much is diverted to other uses, with the result that the navy is not what it ought to be.

H. M. S. "CLIO" DAMAGED IN COLLISION.

The Chinese Commercial S. N. Company's steamer *Hsing Shun* last week at Shanghai collided with and damaged H. M. S. *Clio*, which was moored to the senior naval buoy at the time. The mishap occurred at about 1.20, when the *Hsing Shun* was proceeding up river, having arrived from northern ports. The *Hsing Shun* rounded Pootung Point and came over towards the Shanghai side of the river. A strong spring tide was running at the time and the steamer had very little way on. Consequently she drifted down stream considerably and in the direction of the *Clio*. It was apparent when the two vessels were some distance apart that a collision was inevitable, despite the fact that the *Hsing Shun*'s engines were set full speed astern. The look-out on the *Clio* reported the impending disaster and the crew were hastily summoned, to get out collision mats in an endeavour to minimise the force of the impact. The preparations were well under way before the crash occurred, and although the steps taken no doubt saved both vessels from serious injury, yet the impact was sufficient, to carry away the *Clio*'s jibboom, as well as a portion of her head gear, and to damage the bridge, deck stanchions and other ironwork of the *Hsing Shun*.

On getting clear of the man of war the steamer anchored, but a few minutes later she steamed up river to her berth near the Chinese city.

Fortunately the mishap was unattended with loss of life. It will probably be remembered that a collision between the steamer *Hanping* and H. M. S. *Flora* under almost identical circumstances took place last year, the *Hanping* being beached on the Pootung shore and subsequently raised by the Dock Company.—*Shanghai Times*.

SUPREME COURT.

Thursday, September, 9th.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE FULL COURT.

LEAVE TO APPEAL GRANTED.

Mr. M. W. Slade, who was instructed by Mr. P. M. Hodgson (of Messrs. Ewens and Harston), moved on behalf of the appellant for leave to appeal to the Privy Council against the decision of the Full Court in the action between S. J. David and Co. and Mr. A. J. David, and Chan Ut Chin. The respondents were represented by Mr. C. G. Alabaster, who was instructed by Mr. A. Jackson (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master).

Mr. Slade, in making the application, said the usual steps had been taken, and leave had been applied for on petition to the Court as directed by the rules.

Mr. Alabaster objected to that part of the prayer which asked for a stay of execution.

The Chief Justice—You have no objection as to leave?

Mr. Alabaster—No.

The Chief Justice—Then we'll make the usual order.

Mr. Alabaster—In paragraph 1 of the prayer they ask for a stay of execution.

The Chief Justice—There is a regular practice with regard to that.

Mr. Alabaster—The respondents are willing to give the usual undertaking to return the costs in the event of the appellants being successful.

Mr. Slade—It is all laid down in the rules. If they give security, they are entitled to have the money paid.

The Court made the usual order that execution should go on security being given.

IN BANKRUPTCY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR FRANCIS PIGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

A SUSPENDED DISCHARGE.

Re Long Hing and Co. This was an application for the discharge of the bankrupt firm.

Mr. Fletcher, the Official Receiver, stated that a receiving order in this case was made on April 11th, 1907. There were three partners in the firm, one of whom died in 1906. At the end of the same year another partner went off to Canton, and the debtor, Hung Mak Hoi, appeared in the bankruptcy. Up till 1905 the firm had made an annual profit of about \$1,300. Then one of the partners died, and it was found that he had an overdraft of \$4,000. The other partner, who went to Canton, had an overdraft of \$3,000. The result was that the creditors pressed the firm, and Hung Mak Hoi could not meet his liabilities. Mr. Fletcher suggested that he should be suspended for a short time.

Mr. F. X. d'Almadae Castro (of Messrs. Almada and Smith) suggested that the term of suspension should be three months.

The Official Receiver agreed, and remarked that the firm had paid only an eight per cent. dividend.

His Lordship suspended the debtor's discharge for three months.

THE VALUE OF SHARES.

Re Chiu Yat Kai. This was a debtor's petition for discharge.

Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Messrs. Goldring, Barlow and Morrell), who appeared for the debtor, stated that the assets, as shown by affidavit, were \$3,300, consisting of shares in various shops, while liabilities amounted to \$5,000 odd.

The Official Receiver stated that the only assets were shares in shops, which were always a source of difficulty to realise. He had written to the largest shop in which the debtor said he was interested, and in which he said he had a \$2,500 share, and asked the partners to corroborate the debtor's statement. He received a reply stating that the debtor's share was valued at \$1,000. Judgment had been given against the debtor in a summary jurisdiction action only the day before, and there was another action pending.

Mr. Goldring explained that in the action mentioned there was a partnership agreement which provided for the purchase of a dissenting partner's share in the event of any dispute. His Lordship had practically refused to make an order for a receiver on those grounds. As long as he disclosed the assets, his Lordship had no option but to make the order. Such an order would place a great deal of work on the Official Receiver, but the bankruptcy laws were framed for people in difficulties such as the debtor was.

The Official Receiver stated that the firm admitted the value of the debtor's share was \$1,000, but they claimed rather more than \$1,000, as a set-off against that value.

His Lordship asked to be shown the papers in connection with the case in chambers, and adjourned the hearing.

APPLICATION FOR DISCHARGE.

Re Herbert Stevens.

Mr. F. P. Hett (of Messrs. Brutton and Hett) made the application on behalf of the debtor. The Official Receiver made a report on July 24th, 1908, and also a supplementary report on September 1st this year. His Lordship would see that the Official Receiver in his report made certain allegations against the debtor which he said were proved or justified by the statements made by the debtor, or documents in his possession. With regard to one of the statements, it was perfectly clear that the debtor had not paid 50 per cent., but all the other allegations made by the Official Receiver were denied. Mr. Hett thought it was clear that his Lordship could not make an unconditional discharge, but, if granted, he asked that it should be suspended for a very short period. His client was perfectly ready, if his Lordship thought it necessary, to meet the allegations made in the Official Receiver's report. One of the allegations was that the debtor carried on trade by means of fictitious capital. That was denied, and they were prepared to prove that the capital was paid into the bank on the firm's account. The Official Receiver further stated that the debtor continued to trade, knowing himself to be insolvent. This was a very unfortunate case. One of the partners in the firm died, and Mr. Stevens was left to face the music. The branch of the firm in Hongkong was doing well, but the profits here had to go to pay debts in Shanghai. There was another allegation that Mr. Stevens had not assisted in the way he should have done since the bankruptcy.

Mr. Wakeman—That is not an offence.

Mr. Hett—Then I will not refer to it. I have letters here speaking in the most flattering terms of Mr. Stevens, and asking for his discharge as soon as possible.

Mr. Wakeman—All my remarks are contained in my reports. I think this is a very bad case, and I would ask your Lordship to suspend the discharge for two years.

His Lordship intimated that he would go through the papers and consider the matter.

SPECULATION AND FAILURE.

Re Sho Yut Sang, alias Sho Sam. This was an application by the debtor for discharge.

Sho Yat Sang was called to the witness stand, and examined by Mr. Fletcher:

Your statement of affairs shows your liability to be something like \$23,000. That is all in respect of money borrowed, is it not?—Yes.

How did you get credit for that large amount when you had no assets?—Because the shops were there.

The people who lent you money thought you were a wealthy man because you had certain landed property?—Yes.

The Official Receiver said this was a case in which the debtor's sole business had been speculation in landed property. He kept on buying and selling again. Land values declined, and the result was that he filed his own petition. There would be no dividend.

His Lordship said he would suspend the discharge for two years.

The Official Receiver pointed out that the bankruptcy procedure had been abused in this instance. The debtor had been living on other people's money, and the speaker did not see why he should be allowed to go scot free.

His Lordship made an order that the debtor should show cause why he should not be imprisoned.

FRIENDS IN NEED.

Re C. M. Barradas.

The Official Receiver mentioned that this was quite a small case. Some friends of the debtor had come forward and advanced enough money to pay a composition of 15 per cent. He thought it was to the benefit of the creditors generally that the Court should approve of the scheme.

His Lordship—Does he apply for his discharge?

The Official Receiver—The composition being accepted, he is automatically discharged.

His Lordship approved the scheme.

A DEBTOR ARRESTED.

Re the Lun Yik firm. Lai Wai Tong, a partner in this firm, was called for public examination.

Mr. H. L. Dennys (of Messrs. Dennys and Bowley) represented one of the alleged partners, Sz To Kam Chi, and Mr. J. H. Gardiner represented certain creditors.

Lai Wai Tong said he had a \$195 share in the Lun Yik firm. He had been a partner for about four years, and lived on the premises. The Lun Yik firm had godowns at 6, 7 and 9 Lai On Lane, and witness knew the man who was in charge. He did not know that the goods in these godowns were insured for about \$45,000. In September last there was a fire at No. 7, Lai On Lane, but witness could not give a rough estimate of the value of the goods in the godowns at that time. Witness knew nothing about the \$14,000 paid by the insurance companies.

The Official Receiver asked that the witness should be arrested for an offence under the Ordinance. He proposed to call a witness to prove that the debtor was concerned in the removal of certain goods from the shop before the bankruptcy.

His Lordship—I must have something to go upon.

Leung Wai depesed to being a coolie in the employ of the Lun Yik firm. He remembered the removal of a quantity of ginger from the firm. The ginger was removed on the instructions of the last witness.

The Official Receiver asked for an order to seize this ginger pending any claim. It was worth between \$6,000 and \$7,000.

His Lordship made the order.

Sz To Kam Chi denied being a partner in the debtor firm. He understood that Lai Hoi Ming was a partner.

The Official Receiver informed the Court that he had sent for Lai Hoi Ming, but the latter had refused to call on him. After seeing a representative of the firm of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, who were acting for Lai Hoi Ming, and being informed that Lai still declined to see him, he issued a subpoena. Before this was served, however, Lai left for Canton. Mr. Fletcher asked that this person should be regarded as a partner until he proved to the contrary. Either that or the pawnshop which he owned should be seized. The whole thing was a swindle from beginning to end. The partners insured their shop, there were practically no goods there, there was a fire, and the insurance companies paid up so much. Mr. Lai's name appeared in the partnership book, and the Official Receiver thought that the proof that he was a partner was sufficient to allow his property to be seized as one of the debtors.

His Lordship—There is quite enough evidence for me to act on, but I would like to know under which section I am going to act.

The Official Receiver—If the Court is satisfied I will act without any order.

His Lordship—Wouldn't it be better first to issue a warrant?

The Official Receiver—I should like a warrant, certainly. But the point is whether, technically, he knows about the subpoena.

His Lordship—You want me to find that he is a partner; now, I wonder how I can do that?

The Official Receiver—We might call upon him to show cause why his property should not be seized on account of his being a partner in the firm.

His Lordship—I think that would be effective. I want to be careful, because they will challenge it.

Mr. Dennys called the attention of the Court to sub-section 2 of section 78 of the Bankruptcy Ordinance.

His Lordship made a formal order for substituted service.

Lai Wai Tong was called, and declared that Lai Hoi Ming was a partner in the bankrupt firm.

His Lordship made an order for the arrest of Lai Wai Tong, and Lam Hung Shan, who was also alleged to be a partner, was called upon to furnish \$500 security for his next appearance at Court.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR MR. H. H. J.
GOMPERTZ (PUISNE JUDGE).

A TEMPORARY "BOY."

Mrs. Charles Robinson, wife of the chief officer of the *Yuen Sang*, proceeded against her houseboy, Lin Mui, to recover \$10 damages for breach of contract of service. The defendant counterclaimed to recover \$15, due for one month's wages.

Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Messrs. Goldring, Barlow and Morrell) appeared for the plaintiff, and the defendant appeared in person.

The defendant told the Court that the plaintiff asked him to make a ginger pudding, and gave him lard instead of suet. When he presented the pudding Mrs. Robinson complained that it was not properly made, and dropped it on his head. Subsequently she complained that the defendant had used too much ice, and pulled his queue. He entered plaintiff's service on July 1st.

Plaintiff deposed that defendant entered her service on July 11th, and it was then clearly understood that he was to be paid according to his worth, and that he should continue while her permanent cook was absent. At noon on July 24th defendant ran away. Witness asked him to make a ginger pudding. He made one out of preserved pickled ginger, which she could not eat. She threw it on the floor and told the boy to make a jelly.

Is it true that you put the pudding over his head?—Oh, dear, no! I threw it on the floor.

Proceeding, witness said she gave the boy two jellies to make the jelly with, but he did not put in sufficient water and the jelly was spoiled. The boy was quite incompetent, and witness often had to do the work herself. When she told the boy to put more water in the jelly he got cross, and dealt her a blow on the chest which knocked her down. Then he went downstairs and did not return. Witness always paid her cook the one price, \$20 a month.

His Lordship (to Mr. Goldring)—I take it the engagement was a day-to-day engagement? Mr. Goldring—That is what it comes to, my Lord.

Witness was then questioned by the defendant:

Is it not a fact that another boy was present when you threw the pudding on my head?—I did not throw the pudding on your head.

Did you not dismiss your last cook because he had a fight with one of your lodgers?—No.

Did you not write a chit and ask the comprador to engage a cook for you?—Decidedly not.

Did you not drag my queue when I asked you for my wages?—No, you never asked me for your wages. What nonsense are you talking?

Did you not drag my queue?—No, you are telling lies. You struck me.

His Lordship entered judgment for the boy for \$7.50, and allowed Mrs. Robinson \$2 damages. No costs were given.

Friday, September 10th.

MONEYLENDERS' CLAIMS.

Dyager Singh brought action against A. Souza to recover \$110 due for money lent.

Defendant admitted the claim, and informed the Court the money was due on two promissory notes, one for \$80 and one for \$50. He paid interest at the rate of 7 per month.

Mr. J. H. Gardiner, who represented the plaintiff, said the money had been owing for the last three years.

His Lordship fixed the hearing for Tuesday. R. A. Beltram was proceeded against by Preen Singh for the recovery of \$140 due for money lent. Mr. J. H. Gardiner appeared for the plaintiff.

Defendant admitted the debt, but asked to be allowed to pay in instalments. He earned \$70

a month, and it cost him \$50 to support his wife and family.

Mr. Gardiner pointed out that the money had been owing for six months.

His Lordship said, on the defendant's own statement of his affairs he would make an order for the payment of \$15 a month, the first instalment to be paid on October 1st.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

SOLDIER SHOTS AN OFFICER.

A terrible tragedy occurred in the Artillery Barracks at Monte Fort on Monday morning, when a young sentry, 23 years of age, shot at and killed Captain Isaac Pinto. The unfortunate officer was attending to correspondence when the soldier levelled his rifle at his head and pulled the trigger. The bullet entered the left temple, and the officer died at three o'clock in the afternoon. Profound regret is expressed, not only by the men under Captain Pinto's command, whose interests he always guarded, but by the large circle of friends he had in the Colony.

MACAO'S OPIUM MONOPOLY.

Yesterday afternoon tenders were opened for the local opium monopoly. The price this was expected to realise was \$131,700 for the year, and I understand an offer was made of \$132,000 and was not accepted by the Government. It is rumoured that a private offer of \$150,000 has been made, and apparently the Government are waiting to close with this tenderer. I very much fear, however, that the powers that be will find their mistake in not accepting the offer of \$132,000.

IS ANOTHER RICKSHAW STRIKE IMPENDING?

As another quarter of the year draws to its close there are fears of another strike of rickshaw coolies in the city. Last quarter the men petitioned the Leal Senado for a reduction of the licence fee, which is very heavy, and it was on receipt of an unfavourable reply that a strike was declared. The Fantan monopolist, in the interest of his business, came forward and put an end to the strike by paying part of the fees. Have our representatives reconsidered the petition presented to them last quarter, or are they relying on the Fantan monopolist again stumping up the balance of the fees? Quarterly strikes on this account do not redound to the credit of the city or its administrators.

MACAO AND HONGKONG UNIVERSITY.

Sometime ago, if I am not mistaken, Macao was invited by the Governor of Hongkong to contribute towards the Endowment Fund of the University. It is proposed to establish in Hongkong, but I am not aware that any steps have been taken in Macao to assist the object, although it is obvious that our youngsters stand to derive great advantages from the existence of the University. The trouble is that so many people here are mere birds of passage, and consequently indifferent to local projects. But we have in our midst the "Associação Promotora da Instrução dos Macaenses," which has considerable funds invested. The late Mr. J. J. Francis, of Hongkong, was a shareholder. The Association began with a capital of \$20,000, but its funds now exceed \$50,000. Though the Association may not be able to spare a large amount, I venture to suggest that it should support the Hongkong University scheme, if only with a donation of a thousand dollars. Some years ago this association maintained a very flourishing school in this city, but the professor is now absent from the Colony and his return is doubtful. Seeing that the Association is unable to live up to the expectations embodied in No. 2 of its statutes, it should show its interest in the education of the youth of the Colony by helping to secure the foundation of a University in the neighbouring Colony of Hongkong. I commend this suggestion to the favourable consideration of the Committee.

FATAL SHOOTING ACCIDENT.

On Sunday two Chinese employees in the Works Department were whiling away the hours in a Government matchshed. One of the men was playing with a gun, and not knowing it to be loaded, he pointed it at his companion. The gun went off and the discharge entered the

throat of the unfortunate man, killing him on the spot. His comrade gave himself up to the authorities.

ERRATIC MARKSMEN.

The close season for game is over and local sportsmen are wending their way into Chinese territory to try their skill with the gun. They should, however, be more careful in handling their pieces, and should not fire erratically, as carelessness in the past has been responsible for many sad accidents. It would be advisable for the Government to prevent its employees from leaving the city on shooting expeditions without permission, and when such was granted the sportsmen should be warned to proceed with circumspection. Last week a Chinese boy was shot instead of the bird the marksman aimed at, and if such occurrences become frequent it is feared that the Chinese will become incensed, and that the Delimitation Commission will not be allowed to pursue the smooth and even tenour of its present way.

CANTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

4th September, 1909.

THE NEW VICEBOY.

H. E. Yuan, the new Viceroy, arrived here on Thursday afternoon about 2 o'clock. He was received by all the Civil and Military officials and the seals of office are to be delivered into his hands this afternoon.

A JAPANESE MEDICINE VENDOR.

A Japanese was found travelling in Kwei-lum (Kwangsi) without a passport. The officials there sent him back to the Viceroy, who turned the man over to the Japanese Consul here. When asked his business, he said he went there to sell medicines.

SELF-GOVERNMENT SOCIETY REDIVIVUS.

Some two days ago, there was a fracas, on Sha-ki street, between some soldiers and foks of a rice shop. The Chinese soldiers seized a fok of the rice shop. This the street men and shop people on Sha-ki resented and threatened to go on strike, when the Namhoi Magistrate and some Chinese officials turned up and had the matter settled. This came to the ears of the Self-Government Society, who sent forth a fulmination in the shape of an "express" in Chinese, calling a meeting to discuss this matter. These "Tailors of Tooley Street" want to make a petition to the new Viceroy, to request the British and French Consuls to transfer the barracks of the Chinese soldiers from Sha-ki to Shameen and to give up entire control of the canal to the Chinese authorities, etc. What next? Before these busybodies run into some sort of serious mischief, it may be hoped that the new Viceroy will take them in hand.

FLOATING FIRE.

We had some excitement on Friday afternoon. About 4.30 p.m. a cargo boat full of kerosine oil in large drums took fire near the *Fatshan* wharf. The Chinese police seeing the danger to the craft in the neighbourhood of the wharf towed the boat out to mid-stream. When the fire gathered strength by the east wind they cut off the tow and the burning boat drifted with the flood tide up the river, causing great commotion among the small craft. The burning boat drifted up past the *Paul Beau*, giving an anxious time to the captain and officers. It finally got caught in the moorings of the French gunboat's iron lighter, and blazed there furiously for half an hour, the heat causing some damage to the stores on the lighter. Then it broke loose again and came alongside, the Shameen bund, on the British side still burning and emitting dense blinding smoke. The Shameen fire engine was brought out and good work was done by the volunteer brigade; strong jets of water were brought to play on the fiercely burning boat at close quarters. The back of the burning boat was broken and the tins of kerosine fell into the water. The fire near the bund raged for about 45 minutes, seriously damaging the praya wall. The damage to the French gunboat lighter and the stores on board is estimated at 2,000 francs. The crew of the boat jumped ashore when the fire broke out and ran away in fear of the consequences.

A NEW HEALTH RESORT.

VISIT TO CHEUNG CHAU.

An American is reported to have discovered the North Pole, and it is an American or Americans who discovered Cheung Chau. True, it has been in the possession of Great Britain for more than ten years, passing into our charge when the New Territories were leased from China, but its value as a health resort has only been realised a short time. Cheung Chau, or Dumb Bell Island, is known to most of us. On the trip to Macao we may have glanced at it, being attracted by its size or perhaps by the European houses situated on its breezy uplands, or a bathing excursion may have made us familiar with its shores.

This island, one of the largest in the archipelago, possesses three names. The reason why Britons call it Dumb Bell island is apparent once you have looked over it. Two round ball-like pieces of land joined by a narrow strip suggest the instrument of exercise. On the other hand the Chinese name, Cheung Chau, which means Long Island, is no less appropriate. It was not called Long Island out of compliment to the American visitors. But that by the way. Until two years ago Cheung Chau was only known as a fairly large island in which resided an industrious fishing community, but one or two men belonging to American missions in Canton and vicinity, anxious to secure a place more convenient than the missionary resort at Kuling in North China where they could recuperate and at the same time escape the sweltering summer in Chinese cities, sought for a suitable locality in the neighbourhood of Hongkong. Their search took them to Cheung Chau, with its high elevation, its lovely valleys, and its beautiful stretches of beach with their bathing facilities. As a steam launch service kept the islanders in communication with the outside world, which in the present instance is represented by Hongkong, the men who had come to spy out the land decided in favour of Cheung Chau. Thus was the island discovered.

Building lots were obtained at little more than nominal rates from the Hongkong Government, whose only stipulation was that improvements to the extent of \$2,000 should be made on each lot within two years. Two or three houses were erected in the course of that year, and the experience of these pioneers induced others to follow, until now there are eight houses completed, accommodating at the height of the season—July and August—some sixty folks young and old. That is a substantial increase to the foreign population of any part of our dependency, and naturally it is not without effect on the little island community of Cheung Chau, who are not slow to appreciate at least the material benefits which follow such an innovation.

In addition to the eight houses built, two others are in course of construction, and six building lots have been let which must have the necessary improvements carried out within a year. That means that in about twelve months time there will be sixteen European houses erected on Cheung Chau—a big difference to the island. Several of the houses are built of brick, in others a locally made concrete has been employed, and in one instance, if not more, stone has been used. Labour on the island is cheap, and the dwelling houses have been completed at what must be regarded as reasonable figures. Of course in some cases experience has been rather dearly bought, and one of the earlier houses was wrecked by a typhoon. The bungalow style is universal, and the low, strongly-built structures look as if they would withstand the fiercest wind that blows. To this end verandahs have been omitted from every plan, though it is said that one house possesses a verandah which either through the mistake of the Chinese builder or the amateurish efforts of the architect is *inside*. Whether it be true or not, the writer cannot say, but it is part of the gossip of the island. Roads there are none, but a few paths have been cut, and these give ready communication from one part to another.

The feature of life at Cheung Chau which will appeal to most people is the general or communal bathing. Just when the sun begins to drop in the west and his

slanting rays are intercepted by the little headland, there may be seen men and women attired in bathing costumes and topees, accompanied by their children, also ready for the water, wending their way down the slopes of the island to the beautiful little stretch of white sand, which is now recognised and reserved as the foreign bathing place. Paterfamilias may perhaps carry an umbrella which he sticks in the sand and deposits his topees thereon. Others merely kick off their shoes and rush into the water, and soon the tones of childish glee mingle with the happy laughter of the older folks as they all disport themselves in the briny. It is a delightful sight. It does one good to see so many happy folks, and when one has enjoyed a swim there and climbed a hill in the same light attire in which he came down and has dressed in the comfort of the house, then one has tasted something of the joy which Cheung Chau offers to the visitor or more particularly to the summer resident. To inhale its fresh breezes laden with health-giving ozone, to sit in a chair in the cool and calm of the evening and come under its restful spell, to gaze over the beautiful little harbour with its forest of masts into the blushing heavens, or to turn the eyes towards Hongkong and look at the glittering lights of the Peak—these are a few of the pleasures of this island life. And then to sleep on a bed which needs no mosquito net. That is indeed a pleasure.

One cannot omit from a description of a visit to Cheung Chau a reference to the representative of law and order. A hospitable Scottish police sergeant looks after the interests of this peaceful community and takes a pride in its welfare. As policeman his duties do not seem onerous if the records of prosecutions be taken as a guide, but he doubtless does something to prevent crime. What delights the visitor is to find a little post office with all its equipment of post marks, dates, stamps, and so on. It is like a toy post office, but it is a boon to the foreign residents. In addition to being postmaster, the sergeant is a *functionaire* of the Harbour Office, and is responsible for the collection of no small amount of dues from the shipping. Another of his duties is that of land officer and he may be seen acting as auctioneer as well. Although the Sanitary Board has no jurisdiction here sanitation is not quite neglected, and the weekly cleansing carried out by the police officer raises Cheung Chau far above the level of the ordinary Chinese village in respect of cleanliness. It seems a happy little community, and credit should not be withheld from Sergeant Gordon, who has doubtless improved on the good work accomplished by his predecessors. Certainly his tactful administration is appreciated by both foreigners and Chinese.

What the American visitors have done surely suggests ideas to some of our residents who can afford to live out of the city. Cheung Chau is only an hour's sail from Hongkong. It has three or four launches running daily. It has cheap building sites, and it has good water. What more is wanted? If the distance is too great for the busy commercial man to cover daily, its suitability for week-end pleasure need not be overlooked. Although there are no roads on the island the Government might come to the assistance of residents when the number of houses is greater. Still that is a detail. It is no detractor from the rural delights of Cheung Chau. While suggesting a future for the island it might be as well to mention some of the ideas of the missionaries on the subject. They hope to obtain from the Government a portion of land which could be utilised as a public place of recreation, with a tennis court, and they have ambitions for an assembly hall or school where their children could be taught. By and by, they would like to import one or two public chairs. From all this it will seem that American enterprise will do as much as possible at its limited command to develop the island and make it attractive as a health resort. Dr. Macracken, of the Canton Medical College, is quite enthusiastic over the island and its possibilities, and with him as leader in the movement Cheung Chau should become better known.

His Excellency the Governor has issued invitations for an "At Home" at Mountain Lodge on Wednesday next.

HONGKONG ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

The report of the Committee of the Hongkong St. Andrew's Society, for presentation to the twenty-eighth Annual General Meeting to be held at the City Hall, on Thursday, 23rd inst., states:—

Your Committee have pleasure in presenting to you their Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st August, 1909. The balance at the credit of the Society now stands at \$3,876.28.

St. Andrew's Day, 1908, was celebrated by a Ball, which proved most successful.

A special effort was made during the year to enroll new members, and resulted in 52 new members joining the Society, as against 11 in the previous year.

The entrance fee is only \$5.00, and the Annual Subscription \$2.00, and as it is from this income chiefly that charity cases are assisted, the Committee would specially ask the aid of members in securing new members.

The membership of 17 life members and 262 ordinary members, 279 in all. During the year a larger number than usual of applications for assistance from the Charity Fund were received, and after full investigation grants-in-aid were given amounting in all to \$1,358.33. Other applicants were assisted in finding employment.

Messrs. Robert Mitchell and C. H. Ross resigned their places on the General Committee on their departure from the Colony, and Mr. G. M. Dalgety replaced Mr. A. S. Fraser as Hon. Treasurer, on the latter leaving the Colony.

The Committee deeply regret to have to record the deaths during the year of the following members:—George Murray Bain, H. W. Fraser, Dr. W. Hunter, A. S. Latta, O. D. Thomson and R. D. Watt.

Mr. Murray Bain was an original member of the Society and for many years was a member of the General Committee, and Mr. H. W. Fraser was Hon. Secretary during the years 1893-1894. Both did excellent work for the Society.

The report is signed by Mr. J. R. M. Smith, Chairman, and Mr. David Wood, Hon. Secretary.

CHOLERA IN THE NORTH.

In addition to the death at Chefoo of the Rev. Geo. Cornwell, already announced in our columns, we note that the rev. gentleman's wife has died, as well as a little girl named Ferguson who had visited the house in which Mr. and Mrs. Cornwell were temporarily residing. A Russian visitor has also died of cholera.

At Shanghai Mr. Coath, the Superintendent of the Commercial Pacific Cable Co., and Dr. Goddard, an eye specialist who lived with him, died in hospital on the same day from cholera. A German resident, Mr. Georg Hirt, also died last week from the same disease. Two other foreigners whose names are not given have been admitted into the Isolation Hospital suffering from the same symptoms.

THE NEW CHINESE MINISTER TO WASHINGTON.

Chang Yin Tang is the new Chinese Minister to Washington. His official record is that he accompanied H. E. Tang Shao Yi to Calcutta in 1904, when the Tibet Convention was negotiated. He was appointed Special Commissioner to investigate affairs in Tibet in 1905, and became Assistant Resident in Tibet in December, 1906. In 1907-8 he negotiated the Tibet Trade Regulations as Chinese Plenipotentiary, and in July, 1908, he became an acting Junior Councillor in the Board of Foreign Affairs at Peking.

The outlook for the Yunnan Railway is becoming more and more discouraging. *L'Annam-Tonkin*, a newspaper published at Haiphong, says that British traders profit more by the railway than French business men in Tonkin. The latter have neither the spirit nor the enterprise to intercept the Yunnan trade with Hongkong. The result is that the railway carries British goods more than French wares. That journal traces it all to lack of money and want of combination in French commercial circles at Haiphong.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE LACK OF EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AT THE PEAK.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

3rd September, 1909.

DEAR SIR,—I was very pleased to read the letter from "Common Sense" in this morning's issue, for it explains the reason why a greater number of letters have not been sent in in support of the proposal to establish educational facilities at The Peak.

The subject seems to have been a good deal talked about and everybody appears to be agreed that something should be done without delay.

Might I trespass on your space to deal with one or two points which have been raised?

What is a Kindergarten? A school for little children in which instructive diversions, object lessons and healthful games are prominent features. The object of the Kindergarten is expressed by Froebel as follows:—"It shall . . . give them enjoyment suited to their nature, strengthen their bodies, exercise their senses, employ the waking mind, make them acquainted judiciously with nature and society, cultivate especially the heart-temper, and lead them to the foundations of all living—to unity with themselves."

We may draw three conclusions from this, viz.: That the kindergarten system is the best for young children, especially in a place like Hongkong, where the control exercised by Chinese amahs is so weak; (2) that to teach such a system a specially qualified and certificated mistress is necessary, and (3) that to be denied the facilities of such an excellent and happy training at a most impressionable period of their lives would be a great loss that children at home would not suffer.

Why should it be provided by the Government? The reasons are:—

(1) Only by Government control can continuity be guaranteed.

(2) Government control would place it above injudicious interference by outside parties.

(3) That the important matter of education should be under a fully qualified Director of Education, which would be the case with the Government, but not with private control.

(4) That money is being paid by all taxpayers in the Colony for educational purposes and that the proper proportion of these funds should be devoted to education in the Peak District.

(5) That the European residents are mainly a moving population with only temporary interests here, whereas the Government is permanent, and, from this standpoint, can more easily carry on an educational establishment.

(6) That it can be carried on more cheaply by the Government than by private individuals.

Could a site be found for the school? There are several suitable sites, but one already exists, in a central position on the Peak, which belongs to the Government and can be appropriated without any expense and without interfering with existing interests. I refer to a piece of garden at the west side of Government Villas, which appears to be most admirably suited for the purpose. The cost of erecting a small semi-open-air building on this site and equipping it as a school would be very small.

What would the cost of maintenance be? Your correspondent "A Parent," allowing for a certificated mistress, stationary, assistant teacher, rent, etc., estimates the cost at 400 dollars per month. Allowing \$75 of this for rent, the cost to the Government would at the most be \$325 dollars per month.

In your leading article on this subject you estimated that at least forty children would attend the school, and it has since been estimated that fifty children would avail themselves of its advantages. However, taking the lower figure, and assuming a school fee of five dollars per month were charged, we get the revenue per month at 200 dollars.

The difference between 200 dollars revenue and 325 dollars expenditure, viz., 125 dollars

per month, would be much more than covered by the Peak district's contribution to educational purposes in the Colony's revenue.

It will be clear then that the provision of this school would not be in any way a demand on the community outside the Peak district, and I would submit that not only are the residents in this district entitled to ask that the school should be provided, but also they need not hesitate in sending their children to it, as they are finding the whole of the cost.

In any case, even if the fees have to be fixed so that the revenue from same meets the total expenditure, the Government would still be conferring a benefit on the children at the Peak by undertaking the responsibility of providing the school.

There are other points, but I am afraid I have already trespassed on your space, and my excuse must be, sir, because I remain

THE CHILDREN'S FRIEND.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—A school to which all Peak parents would send their children would be one of the wonders of the world. How, for instance, could you expect our children to be sent to a school attended by other people's children? No; when the Government establishes a score or so of schools at the Peak, each one more select than any of the others, and fixes the fees at a nominal figure, then will the majority of Peak parents consider that the question of educational facilities for their children has been fairly well solved.—Yours truly,

PEAK HOUSEHOLDER & HIS WIFE.
Hongkong, 6th September, 1909.

NEGLECTED SANITARY WORK.

[TO THE EDITOR "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR.—The writer, who has been a resident in Hongkong for some time, and who has followed with considerable interest the weird workings of the Colony's much-abused Sanitary Department, would be pleased to know at what hour the highly paid sanitary inspectors finish work for the day. Plague, apparently, has disappeared, the new sanitary regulations entail less energy and exertion than previously, and yet one has only to go to Blake Pier, Hongkong's principal landing stage, to find a state of things existing that would shame a knacker's yard. At 4.30 p.m. on Thursday afternoon several bathing parties assembled on the Pier to board their respective launches, and the sight presented to them on one of the landing stages was disgusting in the extreme. Dead cats and fowls swollen and putrid, festering in the sun, and garbage of all descriptions, several inches thick, emitted a stench sickening beyond all description. It is a matter for some comment that such things should be permitted, and it is to be hoped that the person whose duty it is to look after the sanitary condition of our principal landing stage will be among those lately recommended for the "order of the boot," so that his place may be filled by a more assiduous officer.

The writer has no desire to be officious, but considers that business should come before pleasure, a state of things that cannot exist in Hongkong, when even the sanitary inspectors can find time to sail their own cruising yachts and go off on a week-end jamboree!—Yours sincerely,

HIC ET UBIQUE.

Romances of salesrooms are not matters that often leak out, but a striking example is reported in the American papers as having occurred recently at Christie's, the result being very much to the surprise of the woman principal. Sometime back she took a pair of old Chinese beakers to the famous King-street salesrooms, asking that they be sold. The modest estimate she put upon their value was from ten to twenty guineas. The beakers were included in an early catalogue. Both dealers and collectors soon realized that they were fine specimens of the Kanghi period. The opening bid was for no less than 500 guineas, and up the price went till it stopped at 2,600 guineas, the biggest figure yet reached this year for any one lot of old China.

DEATH OF THE BISHOP OF NUEVA CACERES, P. I.

According to the Manila newspaper *Libertas* the Apostolic Delegate Mons. Agius received on the 6th inst. the following telegram from Rome, dated 5th September: "With great regret I give you notice of the death of Mons. Jorge Barlin, Bishop of Nueva Caceres. He died yesterday fortified with the Holy Sacraments and with a special blessing from His Holiness. The Holy Father, very regretfully takes his share in the mourning of the Diocese of Na. Caceres, Episcopacy, Priests and faithful people of the Philippine Islands."—CARD. MERRY DEL VAL.

Mons. Barlin was born in Baao, a village of Camarines Sur, on 23rd April, 1850. Weak in health from youth, which rendered impossible his permanence in the Seminary, he was taken by the then Bishop of Nueva Caceres as his familiar and under his aegis completed the studies of philosophy and theology. On 19th September, 1874, he was ordained Priest, and became page to the Bishop, who afterwards appointed him Chaplain to the Throne and Steward of the Cathedral. In 1898, when the Spanish troops retired, so great was the confidence which all the Spaniards had in Padre Barlin that the Governor, Senor Villanil, handed over to him the command of the whole province.

Pope Leo XIII. appointed him Honorary Lord of the Bed-Chamber in 1902, and Mons. Campo, having resigned, Mons. Berlin was appointed Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Na. Caceres on 22nd July, 1903. In the same year Pius X. appointed him Apostolic Protonotary *ad instar participantium*, and on 14th December, 1905, he was solemnly proclaimed Bishop of the said Diocese, his consecration to the high office taking place on the 29th June, 1906, in the large and beautiful Church of Sto Domingo of Manila, in the presence of a huge gathering.

Feeling himself become weaker, Bishop Barlin decided at once to make his *visit ad limina*, and with this purpose arrived at Hongkong on 24th April last, when he was the guest of the Spanish Dominican Fathers at "Glen-seskin." On 1st May he left for Eprepe by the P. & O. s.s. *Assaye*, arriving at Brindisi on the 27th, and twelve hours later at Rome. He received the almost daily visit of the Holy Father's physician, who ordered him absolute rest for some time. The news concerning the health of Mons. Barlin was received with great regret in the Philippine Islands, and specially by the inhabitants of Nueva Caceres.

CHINA TEA.

The Secretary of the Tea Association in London in a letter to the *Times* dated the 9th ult. quotes the following figures:—

	1909.	1908.
Imports for June and July...	3,146,000 lb.	5,770,000 lb.
Deliveries	2,700,000	3,044,000

It will be seen, adds the writer, that the imports and deliveries are less than for the preceding year, owing to no common tea having come into the market, inquiries being all for the finer kinds, with a supply barely enough to meet the demand.

It has been so long the custom of those who inspire the market reports to treat China tea as negligible that they hesitate to recognize its greatly improved position of late years. Like other good things, such as vintage wines, the quality and quantity of China teas must depend somewhat on the climatic conditions of the year, unlike the teas of Southern India and Ceylon grown in the torrid zone, where leaves of a sort can be picked all the year round. This season the Chinaman has been favoured with good weather, and has set himself heartily to work to produce some specialties, such as Ichangs, Souchongs, and Keemuns worthy of his best traditions.

Duke Johann Albrecht of Mecklenburg, the Prince Regent of Brunswick, will stay with His Majesty the King of Siam at the Dusit Park palace. The *Bangkok Times* remarks that this will be the first occasion on which a foreign Prince visiting Siam has stayed in the same palace as His Majesty.

COMPANY REPORTS.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

The report of the board of directors to be presented at the ordinary meeting of shareholders, on Saturday next is as follows:—

Gentlemen,—The directors now beg to submit their report for the half-year ended 30th June, 1909.

The Profit on Working account amounted to \$71,184.54 as compared with \$80,822.30 for the corresponding period of 1908, being a decrease of \$9,637.76.

The Profit and Loss account, including the the sum of \$295.40 brought forward from 31st December, 1908, shows a credit balance of \$70,231.29, which the directors recommend should be apportioned as follows:—

To pay a dividend of:—	
\$2.40 per share on 12,000 old shares	\$28,800.00
and 40 cents per share on 7,897 new shares	3,158.80
	\$31,958.80
To transfer to repairs and renewals account	10,000.00
To write off furniture and fixtures	5,000.00
To write off electric plant	4,000.00
To carry forward to new account	19,272.49
	\$70,231.29

Dr. J. W. Noble has been granted leave of absence. Hon. Mr. E. Osborne retires by rotation, but offers himself for re-election.

In the absence of Messrs. Jeffries and Lowe, the accounts have been audited by Messrs. A. O'D. Gourdin and E. A. M. Williams. Messrs. H. U. Jeffries and A. R. Lowe offer themselves for re-election.

EDWARD OSBORNE,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 31st August, 1909.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

For the Six Months Ending 30th June, 1909.

Dr.	\$
To bad debts and refunds	241.67
To crown rent	505.93
To rates	2,729.90
To fire insurance	3,104.13
To interest	19,126.85
To directors' and auditors' fees	3,200.00
To balance, to be appropriated as follows:—	
of:—\$2.40 per share	\$
on 12,000 old shares	28,800.00
40 cents per share	
on 7,897 new shares	3,158.80
	\$31,958.80
To transfer to repairs and renewals	10,000.00
To write off furniture and fixture	5,000.00
To write off electric plant	4,000.00
To carry forward to new a/c	19,272.49
	\$70,231.29
	\$99,139.77

Cr.

By balance from 31st December, 1908	\$	54,295.40
Less dividend of 6 per cent.		36,000.00
Less transfer to repairs and renewals a/c		10,000.00
Less transfer furniture & fixtures a/c		6,500.00
Less transfer installation of electric light		1,500.00
		\$4,000.00
	\$295.40	
By dividends on shares in public companies		658.00
By scrip and transfer fees		63.00
By rents of shops, and hotel mansions		26,910.00
By bad debts recovered		28.83
By profit on hotel working account for the six months ending 30th June 1909		71,184.54
	\$99,139.77	

REPAIRS AND RENEWALS ACCOUNT.
For the Six Months Ending 30th June, 1909.

Dr.	
To payments on account of repairs and renewals for the half year ending 30th June, 1909	9,823.57
To balance	4,088.52
	\$13,912.09
Cr.	
By balance from 31st December, 1908	\$3,912.09
By amount transferred from profit and loss account as recommended on last report	10,000.00
	\$13,912.09

BALANCE SHEET 30TH JUNE, 1909.

LIABILITIES.	
Capital:—	
12,000 old shares at \$50 each fully paid up	\$600,000.00
8,000 new shares each \$25 paid up	200,000.00
	\$800,000.00
Less 103 new shares not yet issued	2,575.00
	\$797,425.00
1,500 mortgage debentures (6 per cent.)	\$750,000.00
Less 800 held by the company	400,000.00
	350,000.00
Reserve fund	648,975.78
Sundry creditors	47,764.77
Unclaimed dividends	1,401.50
Repairs and renewals account, balance as per statement	4,088.52
Hongkong and Shanghai Corporation (Current account)	225,677.69
Profit and Loss account, balance as per statement	70,231.29
	\$2,145,564.55

ASSETS.	
Value of Marine Lot No. 5 & remaining portion of Marine Lot No. 3 & remaining portion of Marine Lot No. 7, and buildings thereon as per last account	\$1,092,525.83
Since expended on alterations and additions to buildings	2,289.66
	\$1,094,815.49
Praya reclamation, Marine Lot No. 288, as per last account and building thereon ("Hotel Mansions")	621,892.68
Rebuilding south block, payments on account to date	101,793.92
Cost of three Chinese houses on sections B, C, and D of Inland Lot No. 80	33,000.00
Cost of Kowloon Farm, No. 3 Section A.	30,926.90
	\$1,882,428.99
Machinery, furniture and fixtures, as per last account	\$113,734.70
Less written off, as per last report	6,500.00
	\$107,234.70
Since added	42,760.65
	149,995.35
Installation of electric light, as per last account	\$20,500.00
Less written off, as per last report	1,500.00
	19,000.00
Stock of linen, crockery, glass-ware, etc.	33,996.56

Stock of wines, provisions, Household sundries, and stationery, as per inventories	18,103.28
Shares in public companies	4,371.31
Value of steam launch	4,500.00
Sundry debtors	27,127.59
Licences attaching to 1909 B.	1,246.67
Fire insurance account (unexpired premia)	3,141.87
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (Unclaimed Dividends Account)	1,401.50
Cash in hand	251.43
	\$2,145,564.55

COMPANY MEETINGS.

CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY, LTD.

The eighth annual meeting of shareholders in the above company took place at noon on Saturday at the office of the general managers, Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co. Mr. R. Shewan presided, and there were present Sir Paul Chater, Mr. H. P. White (members of consulting committee), Messrs. T. F. Hough, J. H. Young, A. A. Cordeiro, Chau Chan Nam, A. G. Gordon, E. Owen, E. W. Terry, and S. F. Ricketts (secretary).

The notice convening the meeting having been read,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, we now come before you with a statement of accounts made up to the 31st July last, which we trust you find satisfactory. The balance at credit of Profit and Loss account is \$416,483.42, and of this, we propose, with your approval, to allocate \$400,000 to Reserve Fund, and carry forward the balance, \$16,483.42. The Accounts are made up to the date named, as on that day the last instalment of the purchase money of the Canton Franchise and Property was received by us. Into our reason for parting with the Canton factory, I need not go very deeply. When we said in the Report that it was obvious we were losing ground at Canton, we thought it would be obvious to everyone. It is surely obvious that if we made \$52,561.27 in the six months ending 31st August, 1908, we had lost ground when we made only \$88,650 in the next eleven months. That is to say, our monthly earnings had fallen from \$8,760 to \$8,060; if that is not losing ground, then I don't know the meaning of plain English. We found we could not contend against the strong desire of the Chinese to get back the concession for lighting the city—a very natural and proper desire on their part, we admit—so we had to make a virtue of necessity and drive the best bargain we could. The negotiations were spread over a very long period, for I mentioned the matter at our meeting last October, and although we strove hard for better terms, we had finally to close the sale for \$1,330,000. Out of this we had, of course, to pay off the debenture debt of \$50,000, with the premium of \$50,000 additional, at once, and after further deductions for payment of loans and sundry creditors, etc., there remained on 31st July in cash in the Bank \$67,407.86. As of course we have now no use for such a large sum of money, we propose to repay \$500,000 to shareholders as a return of capital, say, \$5 per share on 100,000 shares. I find there is some confusion in shareholders' minds as to how we can pay \$500,000 out of \$446,000 profit, but that, of course, is not so, as we propose to repay Capital and not Profit. But perhaps it will be clearer if you look at it this way: We made \$410,207 balance of proceeds, as we say, and besides that profit of \$410,000 there is the book value received for the property at Canton, say, about \$800,000, and if you add those two together and deduct the overdraft as well as the five lacs paid to debenture holders, you will find that there are about six lacs odd left over as cash in hand. Any difference is accounted for by sundry payments and receipts on working account. It is clear, therefore, that we are quite able to return you \$500,000 and still have, when all is said and done, well over one lac at least for the development of the Kowloon factory. Then comes the question of how this money is to be

returned. I regret to say that is, not so simple as it looks, for it raises some knotty legal points. The difficulty is, of course, with the special one dollar shares. We cannot "return" a shareholder five dollars when he has only lent us one. We might buy up his rights with his shares, you will say, but a company may not buy its own shares. It has been suggested that we might reduce the \$10 to the level of the \$1 share, or raise the \$1 to the level of the \$10 or return capital to the \$10 shareholder, and give a bonus out of profits to the \$1 man, but we are assured that every way bristles with difficulties, and that it will not be easy to formulate such a petition to the Court as the Court will see its way to grant. The matter has been thoroughly threshed out by our solicitors with counsel, and, by their advice, it has been referred home for the opinion of Mr. Palmer, the great authority on Company Law. In the meantime I can only assure shareholders that it is our firm intention to treat both classes of shares alike, and if there were no other way out of the difficulty, we would wind up and reconstruct, but I do not believe it will be necessary to take such a troublesome and expensive course as that. Under present circumstances it will be, I suppose, at least three months before the consent of the Court can be obtained, so we have placed the five lacs on fixed deposit in the Hongkong Bank for the period. I now come to Kowloon. At present the factory there is doing little more than cover its expenses, but we feel that Kowloon has a future before it, and that it would be folly to abandon the place and throw away all the benefit of our past work there. With the advent of the Railway, there will come more work for us over there, but we must be better fitted to cope with it than at present. Our present engines are steam engines of an obsolete type, and very wasteful and costly to run. We must have modern engines of the latest and most effective and economical description, and we must also make provision for having to lay all our lines underground. This will no doubt use up all our surplus cash, but in return you will have a thoroughly up-to-date factory with power more than enough for all our probable requirements for some time to come. This question of alteration and additions to Kowloon is now being gone into very closely by our engineer in charge, Mr. Hales, for we shall have only a limited amount to spend and must make it go as far as possible. With modern economical engines, we shall, of course, reduce our working cost and increase our margin of profit, but you must not expect dividends right off, as that is a matter of time, and we shall be building and planning for the future. So far from speaking of dividends, I cannot even tell you yet what the capital of the Company is to be. The Company received only \$550,000 capital, and now propose to pay you back \$500,000, so that all it will owe you will be fifty cents a share, or \$50,000, which should be our new capital. But if we return \$250,000 to each class of shares, the original shareholders' capital will be \$250,000, while the special shares will remain at \$50,000, making the new capital \$300,000 nominally, but in effect \$500,000, as we must pay the same amount of profits to the \$50,000 as we do to the \$250,000; in other words, the \$1 share will rank as \$5 for dividends. It is an awkward position, and I shall be glad if Mr. Palmer can evolve some means by which the new capital can be stated at its real figure, which is \$500,000. We must not, however, grumble at the special shareholders, for they came forward at a critical period, when, had it not been for their assistance and the money they advanced, the Company would have had to stop and wind up for want of funds. So if we have any money to divide to-day, we have to thank them for it.

There being no questions,

The CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts, which was seconded by Sir PAUL CHATER and agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. OWEN, seconded by Mr. GORDON, Sir Paul Chater, Dr. Noble and Mr. H. P. White were re-elected as members of the Consulting Committee for the ensuing year.

Messrs. W. H. Potts and A. O'D. Gourdin were re-elected auditors, on the motion of Mr. HOUGH, seconded by Mr. YOUNG.

The CHAIRMAN.—Gentlemen, the meeting is over and I thank you for your attendance, but I will just take this opportunity to make one remark. We are always glad if shareholders will come to us or write to the general managers whenever they want information or explanations, and we shall be pleased at all times to give them all we can, but information that may be used to the prejudice or detriment of the Company's interests we cannot give, for there our duty to the Company as managers stop us. We are bound to protect the Company's interests, even against the shareholders themselves at times, for some shareholders are not always its best friends. On the other hand, I say just as frankly that we are not to be coerced or intimidated by the blustering and vapouring of outsiders with no real interest in the Company, nor am I in the least perturbed by the foolish letters of disappointed speculators to the newspapers dealing with figures which they do not understand and the meaning of which they seem incapable of grasping. One muddle-head—I am sorry I cannot find a better word—writes plaintively asking where are the other nine lacs. I cannot tell him. We received thirteen from the sale, five of which we have already paid back, leaving nearly seven lacs in cash in the Bank, out of which we are trying hard to pay you back another five lacs. That makes ten out of thirteen, but where I am to find another nine on top of that and pay nineteen out of thirteen I do not know, unless the gentleman expects me to repeat the miracle of the loaves and fishes or the widow's cruse of oil. Another anonymous scribbler complains bitterly that he sold out at the lowest point of the market, and invokes the aid of the Registrar of Companies, for what I don't know, unless to have us all locked up for the consequences of his own miscalculations. The Registrar of Companies is not the official he requires; it is a Commissioner in Lunacy. (Laughter.) No, gentlemen, if I were to be alarmed or disturbed by such nonsense as that I should not deserve to be your manager. I should be unfit to sit in this chair.

Mr. HOUGH.—Gentlemen, you have heard what has fallen from Mr. Shewan, and I think we cannot separate to-day without expressing our thanks and appreciation for the way in which the General Managers and the Consulting Board have managed our affairs. It is very hard to be in a position like our General Managers have been placed in for the last few weeks—the subject of attack in the newspapers by irresponsible and mischievous individuals. But I am sure that I only voice the opinion of those shareholders who wish prosperity to the Company when I say that the General Managers have the sympathy of us all for the way they have had to put up with the attacks which have been made against them. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN.—I am much obliged to you for your remarks, Mr. Hough. As I said before, the meeting is now over.

HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY.

The half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the Hongkong Hotel Co., Ltd., was held at the Hotel on Saturday afternoon. The Hon. Mr. E. Osborne (Chairman of Directors) presided. There were also present: Messrs. W. Hutton Potts, J. W. C. Bonnar (directors), C. Mooney (secretary), E. D. Haskell, She Po-sham, Ellis Kadoorie, M. S. Northcote, Lai Chan, Fung Tat-hang and A. F. Davies (manager).

The SECRETARY having read the notice convening the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN said:—With your permission we will take the report and accounts as read. The profit for the half-year was not quite up to the level of the same period in 1908, in consequence of the gross receipts having fallen off by \$10,858. When, however, it is taken into consideration that we were deprived of a large proportion of earning power by the rebuilding of the South Block, and when also we take into account the check to pleasure travel which invariably accompanies depression in trade, I think we may congratulate ourselves that the Working Account shows up even as well as it does, especially so, considering the heavy expenditure on legal charges incurred through the re-issue of Debentures and increase of capital. The new gas engines are giving satisfaction, and though in point of economical

working they fall short of estimates, yet the actual saving, apart from other considerations, is sufficiently large to justify their acquisition. The rebuilding of the South Block progresses favourably, and this addition, when completed a year hence, will make a much needed and, we think, profitable finish to the Hotel.

There being no questions,

The CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. NORTHCOTE, seconded, and remarked that when all things were considered the accounts were satisfactory.

The motion was carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. HASKELL, seconded by Mr. KADOORIE, the Hon. Mr. Osborne was re-elected to the directorate.

Mr. DAVIES proposed Messrs. H. U. Jeffries and A. R. Lowe be re-elected auditors. Mr. SHE PO-SHAM seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN.—Thank you, gentlemen, for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready on Monday.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LTD.

Mr. Suzuki, manager of the Hongkong Branch of the Yokohama Specie Bank, informs us of the receipt of a telegram from the Head Office of the Bank to the effect that at the half-yearly meeting of shareholders held at the Head Office, Yokohama, on the 10th. instant, it was resolved to pay a dividend of 12 per cent. per annum for the half-year ending the 30th June, 1909; to add to the Reserve Fund Yen 400,000, and to carry forward the sum of Yen 1,155,000 to the next account.

FAR EASTERN TELEGRAMS.

THE CHINA-JAPAN AGREEMENT SIGNED.

Tokyo, September 5th.

The Convention settling various disputes between China and Japan was signed yesterday.

Japan acknowledges Chinese suzerainty over the territory of Chientao and China acknowledges Japan's mining rights at Fushun and Yentai.

Other questions are also settled by this Convention.

THE NEW U.S. MINISTER TO CHINA.

Tokyo, September 7th.

Mr. Crane, the newly-appointed American Minister to China, is due to arrive in Peking in October.

THE KOREA BANK.

Tokyo, September 7th.

The Korea Bank issue has been over-subscribed.

THE JAPANESE MINISTER TO WASHINGTON.

Tokyo, September 12th.

It is understood that Mr. Takahira, the Minister to Washington, who has recently returned, resigns the post, and that Mr. Makino, late Minister of Education, will succeed him.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

CHINESE NAVAL REFORM.

Shanghai, September 5th.

Prince Hsun and Admiral Sah, Principal Officer of the Navy, left Ningpo this morning for Foochow, whence they will proceed to Hongkong en route for Canton in a day or two to inspect the forts and take steps to reform the Navy.

Several cases of sickness have broken out on board H. M. S. Britomart (says a Hankow paper of August 27) and two sailors, one seized with cholera and the other suffering from typhoid, have been removed to hospital. Both are progressing as favourably as can be expected, while four other invalids on board are doing well.

THE TRADE OF CANTON FOR 1908.

Mr. Acting Consul-General Fox, in his annual report says:—

Canton is the natural distributing centre for the two provinces of Kwangtung and Kwangsi, the former with an area of 100,000 square miles and a population of 31,865,000, being one of the largest and most densely populated provinces in China, the latter, with an area of 77,000 square miles and a population of only 5,100,000, the most thinly populated and least developed of all the eighteen provinces.

It is remarkable that there is hardly one town or district of any importance from a commercial point of view within an area considerably larger than that of the British Isles that cannot be reached by water from Canton. Goods are habitually transported on these waterways to points in the Provinces of Yunnan, Kueichou, Kwangsi, Hunan and Kiangsi.

The number of foreign residents, which until ten years ago remained stationary at between 300 and 350, had increased in 1905 to 1,200 and is now (April, 1909) close on 1,350.

The total foreign population of Canton is probably over 1,500.

But few lots on either concession now remain unbuilt on, and the value of land and house property has risen to such an extent that a lot on the British concession, measuring 12,645 square feet, which changed hands, in 1885, for some 4,000 dol., was recently sold by public auction for 37,800 dol. (3,150%). This works out at 21,745 dol. per Chinese mou (1 acre equals 6.6 mou) or 2.98 dol., say, 5s. per square foot.

It is dangerous to prophesy in the East, but everything seems to point to Shameen becoming more and more the business centre of Canton. The settlement is most conveniently situated at the front door, as it were, of the business quarter of the city; it is easily accessible to Chinese merchants and dealers, who have a natural aversion to crossing the water, and its extra-territorial status and immunity from Chinese official control are strong inducements to the merchant class to conduct their business transactions on the concessions.

Shameen has, moreover, the great advantage of a water frontage measuring some 200 or 300 yards, facing that section of the harbour reserved for the anchorage of ocean steamers, and the river steamer wharves commence on the other side of the narrow defence creek at the east end of the French concession.

The new Chinese bund, or embankment, now in course of construction, will in time connect Shameen, by a broad road suited to vehicular traffic, with the terminal stations of the Canton-Hankow and Canton-Kowloon Railways at Wong Sha and Tai Sha Tau.

Ocean steamers drawing as much as 17 feet can come up with the tide and anchor in deep water of Shameen; river steamers, drawing not more than 9½ feet moor alongside the wharves at any state of the tide.

The city of Canton—to which a distinguished traveller not long ago applied the name of "Nightmare City" such was the impression that its labyrinth of dark and narrow streets, the weird and often repulsive display of animal and vegetable food-stuffs, and its hurrying chattering stream of yellow humanity made upon him—is now well within the beaten track of tourists, and therefore needs no detailed description in this place.

The city, with its 1,250,000 inhabitants, at a moderate estimate, is one of the largest and probably the wealthiest of the great cities of China.

Its people, famous for their enterprise and business capacity, have spread all over the Empire, and are to be found playing a leading part in all the Chinese communities of America, Australia and the Malay Peninsula. They have placed themselves in the van of the movement towards reform and constitutional government. In Canton may be seen more markedly than in any other Chinese city at the present day the visible effects of China's awakening in the shape of patriotic societies, whose leaders discuss the questions of the day, more particularly those relating to foreign affairs, at public meetings; a young and irresponsible Press, which is rapidly acquiring many of the worst features of "yellow journalism"; and that unreasoning

dislike and suspicion of foreign nations, which find expression in the boycott.

As regards the last-named institution, matters have now come to such a pass that any attempt on the part of a foreign firm in Canton to press home a claim, however just, against a native merchant, is met by the threat of a boycott. In a recent flagrant case of the imitation of a trade mark on certain underclothing of British manufacture, the Chinese magistrate excused his refusal to record a conviction and impose an exemplary fine on the score that if he did so the firm importing the goods would lose all their business in Canton.

THE PORT OF CANTON.

If the description applied to Canton in an old Commercial Directory of the year 1842, "one of the greatest emporiums in the East, ranking as a port of trade either before or immediately after Calcutta" no longer holds good, Canton, the oldest Treaty port in China, still ranks amongst the four largest ports in China.

Taking the whole value of the steamer borne trade, Canton in 1907 took third place, after Hankow and Shanghai, and, as regards direct trade with foreign countries, Canton was second only to Shanghai.

The expansion in the trade of the port, which has been especially noticeable during the past six years, should receive a strong impetus with the advent of the two main lines to Hankow and Hongkong, while the advantages it possesses in good and cheap labour, facilities for transport, and coal mines within easy reach, assure Canton's future as a great manufacturing centre.

I think I have said enough in the foregoing sketch, necessarily brief and imperfect, to demonstrate to British merchants and manufacturers that Canton is a market worthy of their particular attention.

COMPARATIVE VALUE OF TRADE OF CANTON IN 1908.

A drop of no less than 7d. in the average sterling value of the Haikwan tael in 1908, compared with its average value in 1907, renders a comparison of the sterling values of the trade of Canton during 1908 and preceding years somewhat misleading.

Foreign imports would have shown a decline but for the large increase (2,059,906 taels) in the value of Indian opium, and an increase in kerosene oil (251,349 taels).

The considerable rise in native imports (7,999,706 taels) is due to increased imports of beans, groundnuts, native opium and rice, the latter a special import to relieve the distress caused by the disastrous floods in the Canton Delta in June and July of last year.

Exports of native produce show a falling-off of 7,589,764 taels, chiefly owing to a decrease in the values of those staples of Canton, matting silk and tea.

Re-exports of foreign goods consist chiefly of kerosene oil transhipped to West River ports, and native re-exports are made up of beans, groundnut oil, and other northern produce imported by direct steamer and returned to Canton for sale.

An idea of the close commercial relations existing between Hongkong and Canton may be gathered from the fact that, of the total trade of Canton with foreign countries in 1908, amounting to 73,976,427 taels (9,863,524%), Hongkong's share was 70,333,835 taels (9,377,845%), or almost 95 per cent.

Exports.—The majority of the 27 British firms, including eight British Indian enterprises, established in Canton are interested exclusively in exports as buyers and shippers. Of these exports the most important are, in their order of value, silk, mats and matting, cassia and—although this once famous commodity is fast disappearing from British merchants' ledgers—tea.

I am indebted to several gentlemen for the following notes on the trade in the above-mentioned articles.

The total production of raw silk, which term covers all qualities of silks spun from cocoons reared in China, was 37,000 bales, yielded by eight crops. Merchants and spinners had a fairly good year, but producers suffered as crops were uniformly poor or only of medium quality and quantity.

A feature of the year's trade was the considerable increase in the export to America. From July to December approximately 9,000 bales

were shipped to New York, as against 4,000 during the same period in 1907. The demand is due to the introduction of a new grade of piece-goods, for which Canton raw silk has been found most adaptable.

My informant says that serious complaints have been made with regard to the poor quality of Canton filatures and raw silk generally during the past year. Spinners in the interior, who suffered considerably from the general depression at the end of 1907, sought to recoup themselves by dismissing their skilled hands and working with unskilled labour at lower wages. The consequence has been a general deterioration of their production. One large European firm, which has installed a special plant for dealing with the Canton product, at a cost of 750,000 fr., threatens to destroy it and give up Canton silk altogether unless a considerable improvement in the quality of raw silk is shown.

On the other hand, I am informed that the Canton product is at best a low grade silk, the semi-tropical climate, with its variability and uncertainty, making the rearing of high grade cocoons almost an impossibility. European spinning machinery would undoubtedly give better results, but its cost is prohibitive.

MATS AND MATTING.

The falling-off in the quantity of matting exported from Canton in 1908 is attributed to the weak demand from America—the principal market for Canton matting—owing to the commercial depression following on the financial crisis of 1907.

As compared with Japanese matting, the Cantonese product is, I am informed, distinctly the more durable of the two, but, on the other hand, the Japanese article is more artistic, and, if it does not last so long, enables purchasers to make a change of pattern from time to time.

It is said that a falling-off in the quality of straw used in the manufacture of Canton matting has been noticeable during the past few years. Dealers say that, owing to the comparatively low price realised by the farmers for their straw, the latter are unable to expend the same amount on fertilisers as they used to, and therefore cannot produce the same quantity of long fibre straws.

The coarseness of straw used in the manufacture of ordinary grades of matting in 1908 is also to some extent attributable to the low exchange which prevailed. This favoured a large export to America of narrow Ningpo, the finest quality of Chinese matting, with the result that other grades had to be made of coarser straw, the residue of that used for narrow Ningpo.

The present tariff in force in the United States is such that matting costing more than 10 cents gold per yard (export price from Canton after duty and other charges have been deducted) pays a duty which is so high as to put the higher grades of Canton matting, except when a low rate of silver prevails, out of the field.

This falling-off in the quality of straw used for the ordinary grades of Canton matting is having the effect of diverting a certain amount of business to Cochin-China, where what is known as Cochin matting is made. One of the largest Chinese dealers in Canton has quite recently acquired an interest in the manufacture of "Cochins."

Cochin matting is in many ways inferior to the Canton article, but it appears to be a growing industry which may before long seriously affect the Canton trade.

That trade is, moreover, already suffering from a decreased output of straw, the enhanced price of rice making it more profitable for farmers to cultivate paddy instead of matting straw. Considerable areas, in what are known as the matting districts, have, I understand, been given over to rice.

The export of mats for packing purposes is steadily increasing. A small Continental business has lately sprung up, and there is some inquiry from the United Kingdom.

CASSIA LIGNEA.

The average prices in 1908 were higher than in the previous year, attributable to a shortage of supply and a brisk demand. Prices at the end of the year were on a level that has not been reached for a considerable period.

The quality showed an improvement, especially in regard to colours, but Chinese producers, in spite of the action taken by the Cassia Guild

and the Chamber of Commerce in 1907, still pursue their suicidal policy of giving short weight.

The business in cassia bark was poor, undoubtedly a result of the inferior qualities supplied in recent years, which had the natural effect of curtailing orders.

TFA.

The prophecy, oft repeated in Canton trade reports, that Canton's one time valuable tea trade with Europe was doomed to gradual extinction, unless the Chinese paid more attention to the preparation and packing of the tea leaf, would seem to have been fulfilled. In his 1907 report the Commissioner of Customs wrote: "Canton teas are not worth mentioning," and last year's export was smaller than that of 1907 by 4,501 lbs.

The competition of Indian and Ceylon teas has proved too much for the Chinese article, although the latter is admittedly purer and more wholesome than its rivals. The principal markets for Canton tea at present are Peru, Havana, South Africa, America and Australia, wherever, in short, Cantonese reside, the trade being for the most part in Chinese hands.

I am told that the quality of Canton teas is quite as good as ever it was, but dealers, being able to dispose of their goods in China and the markets above mentioned, take little interest in the European market.

It is a pity that the Cantonese do not, in view of the present revival of China tea in the United Kingdom, make some attempt to recapture this important market.

OPIUM IMPORTS.

It will be noticed on Table 2 at the end of this report that whereas the import of foreign opium into Canton decreased by only 409 cwts., say, 286 chests, the value rose, in spite of the drop in exchange, by 123,982l., that is to say, by 2,059,996 Haikwan taels. This extraordinary rise in values is due to the enhanced sale prices of the drug in India, the maximum and minimum prices obtained for Bergal, Benares and Malwa opium in 1908 being much higher than those obtained in 1907. For Hongkong dealers the year's workings in opium are described as unsatisfactory, the attempt of the Chinese authorities to regulate and restrict the sale of raw opium in this province having seriously disturbed the normal course of the trade. In Canton the business is in the hands of native dealers, who report a fairly good year.

Public opium smoking, in divans and restaurants, has practically ceased owing to the strict enforcement of the regulations by the police, but there would appear to be little diminution in the amount of opium smoked privately, and the authorities have so far failed to induce smokers to take out licences.

As these licences take the form of a printed document on a board some 12 inches square, which must be produced by the holder when purchasing opium, this reluctance on the part of smokers is not to be wondered at.

The quantity of native opium shown in the customs returns forms only a part of the total import through other channels, authorised and illicit, which is estimated at some 5,000 piculs per annum.

A local dealer informs me that a marked falling-off was noticeable last year in the quantity of native opium coming down from Yunnan, Kweichow, and Szechuan, and he attributes this partly to the fact that the partial stoppage of cultivation in North China has created an increased demand for the drug in that quarter, and partly to the fact that the price of native opium has risen owing to the Tung Chuan tax of 115 taels per picul now imposed.

The price of an ounce of boiled native opium, best quality, is now about 6 mace 4 candareens (1s. 8d.), as compared with 8 mace 8 candareens (2s. 4d.) for the Indian article.

Opium smoking in Canton is gradually becoming a luxury, indulged in by well-to-do people only, who prefer to pay a little more to get the foreign drug.

A perusal of the above list enables one to form an idea of the immense business done in foreign goods in Canton, and the varied requirements of the Canton market.

A list of the principal articles of foreign origin imported into Canton with their values for 1907 and 1908 is given. The Consul adds:—

I do not propose to make any detailed comments on this list, but I would suggest that any reader of this report who is interested in any particular import should communicate with this Consulate-General, stating as exactly as possible the particulars required, and no effort will be spared to supply the desired information.

Inquiries addressed to Consulates in China on trade matters are often of so general and vague a description that it is exceedingly difficult to make adequate replies. If firms in the United Kingdom would only take the Consul a little more into their confidence with regard to the scope of their business, the nature and cost of the articles they deal in, and the terms they are prepared to offer, he on his part would do his best to tell them what demand existed for the articles in question, and what chances there were of business being done.

JAPANESE BOYCOTT.

It will be noticed that the Japanese boycott, now to all intents and purposes dead, is responsible for a serious falling-off in the import of Japanese products, such as marine delicacies, matches and piece-goods.

In comparing the values of other imports it should be borne in mind that in many cases the Canton returns of the Imperial Maritime Customs do not necessarily represent the total import of any particular commodity. There is still an important junk trade between Hongkong and Canton, and even foreign importers often find it pays them to import such goods as yarn, flour, sugar, &c., by junk, paying duty at the native customs.

RICE.

The big drop in the import of foreign rice is due to the good harvests in the Yangtze Valley, which enabled Canton to draw the bulk of its supplies from Wuhu and Yangtze ports instead of Saigon and Bangkok.

The import from Yangtze ports, 6,175,538 piculs, was, as a matter of fact, considerably above normal, owing to heavy shipments for the relief of sufferers by the floods.

YARN.

In round figures the import of Indian yarn from Hongkong into the province amounted last year to:—

	Bales,
Canton and Fatshan	20,000
Swatow	50,000
West River	50,000
East River	15,000
Sainam (near Samshui)	15,000
Total	150,000

FLOUR.

Flour is becoming more popular every year, and regularly appears in the form of bread and biscuits on the tables of the middle and upper classes.

The import is almost entirely the product of American mill. Australian flour, which had assumed a prominent position in 1907, disappeared from the returns last year, being unable to compete with its old-established American rival, and for the same reason the local flour mill in Hongkong, which was established for the purpose of supplying the China market two years ago, was obliged to close its doors.

It will be noticed that, whereas the quantity of flour imported last year shows a decrease of over 27,000 cwts., values rose some 329,000 taels. This is due to the Canton valuation having been raised from 2.90 taels per picul for 1907 returns to 4.03 taels for the 1908 returns.

I take this opportunity of pointing out that the values given in the customs returns are not port values, but uniform values supplied annually to each port for its use by the Statistical Department in Shanghai. This explains the discrepancies that are often noticed in the customs returns between their values, say, for flour or oil, and the current market price of those commodities.

COAL.

Japanese coal is now shipped direct to Canton by steamer instead of, as heretofore, to Hongkong with transshipment into junk or lighter.

MOTOR BOATS.

In the absence of good roads there is at present no demand for motor cars, but the waterways which take the place of roads offer an almost unlimited market for motor boats.

Motors will undoubtedly in time take the place of the steam launches towing native

passenger boats, referred to in the introduction to this report, and, if the comparative costliness of kerosene oil proves a bar to their introduction, a solution of the difficulty may be found in the recently invented "suction gas" plant, which has a consumption of coal of under 1 lb. per horse-power per hour, and which will, I understand, enable gas-propelled motors to be run at about one-sixth of the cost of an oil motor.

Two large motor passenger boats, of English make, are now running on the West River above Wuchow, two American machines have recently been purchased by the Canton-Hankow Railway, and the Chinese Admiral's new yacht, built in Hongkong, is a twin-screw motor launch, developing 100 horse-power with two motors. Smaller launches of various patterns are coming into use for harbour work and towing purposes in the Delta.

TRADE-MARKS AND PATENTS.

The increased sale for articles of foreign manufacture has encouraged the imitation of foreign trade-marks and patents. It is satisfactory to be able to record that the Chinese authorities in Canton are showing a disposition to protect British trade-marks, the most recent case being the fining of a native shop-keeper for importing a spurious imitation of a well-known brand of condensed milk.

The authorities do not, however, extend this protection to patent articles, holding apparently that there is a distinction between the imitation of a trade-mark, with obvious intent to defraud, and the imitation of an article where the copy may be to all intents and purposes as good as the original.

NOTES ON LOCAL INDUSTRIES.

Among the more recently established factories and undertakings making use of labour-saving machinery, the following may be commended to the notice of British manufacturers:—

The Canton Government Cement Works.—Built at a cost of 300,000 dol. Machinery, consisting of a main steam engine with three boilers (500 horse-power), elevators, grinding machines, drying plant, crushing machinery, &c., supplied at an additional cost of 320,000 dol.; estimated output per diem, 500 barrels of 400 lbs. net each.

These works are now in operation, under German supervision, the management being Chinese.

With special facilities for obtaining cheap limestone and cheap labour, and a growing demand for cement on railways and other works, they should, if capably managed, prove a paying concern.

Canton Waterworks.—These waterworks, built at a cost of 1,500,000 dol., under the supervision of a British engineer, were opened in August, 1908. The machinery, all of British manufacture, is capable of supplying 6,000,000 gallons of water every 24 hours.

The water, taken from the river a few miles above Canton, appears to be of good quality, and already some 40 miles of piping have been laid down in the city and suburbs, from which water is supplied to over 10,000 subscribers.

The waterworks are under Chinese management, no foreigners being employed.

Canton Electric Light Works.—These works, erected by the Chinese Light and Power Company of Hongkong, are situated at the Ng Sin Moon (South Gate). The plant is up to date in every detail, and with the exception of an engine is of British manufacture. It consists of three Diesel oil engines burning crude petroleum, the total brake horse-power being 600, five steam engines of a total brake horse-power of 730, four Babcock-Wilcox water-tube boilers, burning Japanese coal, and one Green's economiser. Induced draught is used, Contraflo and Worthington condensers. The staff consists of two engineers, one mains superintendant and 121 Chinese.

Electric energy is supplied to Canton city and the foreign settlement of Shameen by means of overhead high-pressure mains, carried on iron and wooden poles. The primary pressure is 2,000 volts. The secondary or house service pressure, is 100 volts. The current is alternating. The supply on Shameen is continuous, that in the city being from sunset to sunrise. Consumers connected to Mains:—Shameen, 167; Canton city, 2,642; Total, 2,809.

Total number of 8 candle power (equivalent) lamps connected (March 1, 1909), 26,510.

There are in addition to the above the Canton Arsenal, smokeless powder factory, the provincial mint, a paper mill, a cigarette factory, several small shipbuilding and ship repairing yards; the railway works at the termini of the Canton-Kowloon, Canton-Hankow and Canton-Samshui railways, and the new river bunding, now in course of construction, which requires steel bridges and landing stages.

Lest, however, any British firm should have its attention called to this page and take the trouble to send out illustrated catalogues and circulars and make enquiries with regard to the openings, for machinery above indicated, I take this opportunity of repeating what my predecessor wrote last year, that catalogues, more especially of railway material, are useless, and that the only way to obtain orders is to follow the German and American example and send out competent men who will find out exactly what the Chinese want, tell them exactly what they can supply and for how much, and in short be prepared to exercise that patience, tact and business acumen without which in these days big orders are not obtained in China. British manufacturers are too often content to be represented by merchants in China, who, however willing they may be to push their wares, have not the time to devote to the business and are without with the necessary expert knowledge.

I am convinced that it is for this reason that so many large orders for railway material have, during the past year, gone to German and American firms.

CHINESE RAILWAY FRAUDS.

The Times published the following note from its special correspondent lately in the Far East:—

As the *Cologne Gazette* challenges the statements made by your Peking Correspondent in his telegram of August 4, and the German Foreign Office denies that there is the smallest ground for associating Germans with the charges of fraud in connection with the northern, or German, section of the Tientsin-Pu-kau Railway, it may be well to quote the following charges, made in the articles of impeachment submitted by Vice-President Yen-sui, one of the representatives of the gentry of Chihli in Peking, which were made public in Chinese newspapers whilst I was in Peking:—

That Li-te-shun, director of the northern section of the Tientsin-Pu-kau Railway, who is married to a German, appointed Germans on high salaries to nominal functions on the railway.

That in return for a pecuniary consideration he agreed to bring the Tientsin terminus of the railway near the German settlement, though for reasons of economy it was originally intended to have the terminus in the vicinity of the Japanese settlement.

That coal contracts for the railway were placed by him for similar considerations at an excessive rate with collieries in which Germans had a controlling interest.

That Li-te-shun was engaged in corrupt transactions with regard to the purchase and sale of lands for the railway, the profits of which he shared with his German friends.

It may have been only a coincidence that at the time when these charges were made public, the German Minister hurried back to Peking from his summer quarters at Pei-ta-ho, which he very rarely leaves except for reasons of special urgency. But I was told by well-informed Chinese that the object of his journey was to induce the Waiwupu to stifle the inquiry for which the province of Chihli was then pressing.

If, on the other hand, the Germans were not privy to the nefarious practices for which Li-te-shun has been cashiered and other higher officials punished, what is the value, it may be asked, of the much vaunted "Pu-kau terms" which form the basis of the railway loan contract recently concluded by the international financial "combine" with the Chinese Government, since they failed altogether to prevent such gross financial frauds on the German section of the Tientsin-Pu-kau Railway?

P.S.—I would take this opportunity to correct a telegraphic error in the message sent by me from Ottawa which appeared in *The Times* of July 29. My reference to the Tientsin-Hankow Railway should of course read Tientsin-Pu-kau Railway.

ANNUAL REPORT ON WEI-HAI-WEI.

Sir James Stuart Lockhart, Commissioner of the Territory of Wei-hai-wei in his annual report for 1908, says:—

The revenue collected during the year amounted to \$83,277, as compared with \$80,331 during the previous year. The expenditure during the year amounted to \$168,740, as compared \$173,340, the expenditure of the previous year. There are no capitalists resident in this Territory, and wealthy merchants at Shanghai are not inclined under existing conditions to invest their capital here. This is illustrated by the attitude of the Shanghai public in regard to the question of starting a fruit-growing company here. The results of the fruit-growing experiments made by Government have proved conclusively that fruit could be successfully and profitably produced in this Territory, and certain persons were very anxious to form a company, buy or rent ground, and start business, but owing to the uncertainty of tenure it was found impossible to raise the small capital required. It cannot, however, be said that trade is either stagnant or diminishing, though owing to the place being a free port it is not possible to give accurate returns of imports, as there are no Customs returns.

A general report on the growing of fruit, trees, shrubs, flowers, and vegetables at Wei-hai-wei from 1905 to 1909 has been prepared by Mr. Gibbons, horticulturist specially appointed to superintend the growing of fruit in this Territory. Mr. Gibbons states that "the result of four years' experiment has been to demonstrate very clearly that the culture of fruit can be engaged in as a commercial proposition," and that "the experiment has proved to my satisfaction that fruit culture at Wei-hai-wei would be a safe investment." In order to encourage the Chinese to undertake fruit culture and tree planting a small pamphlet prepared by Mr. Gibbons has been translated into simple Chinese and widely distributed in the Territory. The pamphlet gives general elementary instructions as to pruning, manuring, propagating, &c., and should prove of benefit to the Chinese.

Both of the Magistrates' Courts have been fully occupied with the litigation which is so marked a feature of Chinese village life in Wei-hai-wei. The magistrates endeavour, as far as possible, to decide the civil cases which arise in accordance with Chinese law and customs, and the fact that the villagers seek the assistance of the courts more and more every year shows that these efforts are appreciated. The system of having duly authorised petition writers has been abolished at the suggestion of the district officer, because it was found that these petition writers grossly abused their positions, charged extortionate fees, and stirred up litigation on their own account. Every possible phase of Chinese life is revealed in the cases which come to court, and without a sympathetic understanding of the people, and a knowledge of their language and customs, it would be impossible to administer justice in a manner that would give satisfaction to those who seek redress. Evidence is apt to be extremely conflicting, and the puzzles and conundrums which the justices desire magistrates to solve are frequently very bewildering. Documents are produced often hundreds of years old in proof of rights of ownership or cultivation, division of family property, &c., and many cases are fought out generation after generation.

Constitutional reform is being introduced in the Province of Shantung, as in the other provinces of China. Representatives of the Chinese Government, at the request of that Government, were allowed to come to this Territory to prepare a register of such electors as are entitled to become, or to vote for, members of the Provincial Assembly to be held at Chinan, the capital of Shantung. The register has been completed, and the first election of members of the Provincial Assembly is now taking place.

The general condition of the affairs of this Territory during the past year may be considered as satisfactory as circumstances permit. Whilst trade has not increased appreciably, the general standard of living among the Chinese population appears to be steadily improving.

The harvests have been good, the people appear to be contented, and there has been but little crime. The number of visitors during the summer months was the largest on record, and there is every indication that it will continue to increase.

PHILIPPINE MINERALS.

A pamphlet entitled "The Mineral Resources of the Philippine Islands" has been issued by Mr. Warren D. Smith, chief of the division of geology and mines, Bureau of Science. The pamphlet contains a number of articles by scientific men, the results of special research into the various matters treated. The table of contents shows the following list: The Non-metallic Minerals, by Warren D. Smith; The Metallic Minerals, by H. G. Ferguson; Philippine Raw Cement Materials, by V. J. Cox; The Gold Fields of Surigao Peninsula, Mindanao, by Maurice Goodman; The Production of Structural Material, by George I. Adams.

From the introduction to the pamphlet we take the following interesting data:—

In 1907 the gold production for the Philippine Islands amounted to only \$78,000, which was indeed small; however, it marked only the beginning of the industry. We who were on the ground had faith in the country and what it could produce. It was a different matter with those outside the Philippines, to whose ears there came, year after year, reports of failure. Besides, we had inherited a host of troubles from the days of the Spanish régime. The man to whom we appealed asked not for opinions, nor for excuses. He wanted results. We could not point to them then. Therefore, it is with extreme satisfaction that we can now show these results; point to the facts. In 1908 the gold production amounted to over \$200,000, a gain of over 100 per cent.

Before our coal deposits were opened up there were many who predicted many difficulties, both in mining and in using the coal. The fact remains, however, that the coal is being mined, cheaply, and is being used by over a score of inter-island trading vessels. The production at the beginning of 1907 was almost nil, toward the end of the year it amounted to 25 tons a day, at the present time it is 50, and it is planned very soon to increase the output to 150 tons, owing to the fact that a large amount of development work has been done in one of the mines. The Government coal mine is producing at the present time 80 tons a day.

One very regrettable feature about the mining situation in these Islands is the fact that so few of the better class of Filipinos take any interest in the development of the mineral resources of their own country. It is true the semi-wild Igorots of north-central Luzon mine and smelt copper on a small scale, and hundreds of natives in various parts of the Islands are engaged in desultory panning for gold. It is also true that the only iron furnace in operation in the Philippines is owned and run by a Filipino woman. With these exceptions, the Filipino people are almost absolutely ignorant about mining and, what is worse, seem to be apathetic in regard to it.

It would be far better for the country politically and industrially if some of the bright Filipino youths who are sent to the United States for education could be induced to take up a course in mining and engineering chemistry, and on their return place themselves as apprentices in some company, beginning with the most menial work. We cannot expect the Filipino, with his peculiar Malay temperament and past education, to take kindly to this sort of work at first, but we are not without hope that some day he will demonstrate that he can do it.

Many surprises in regard to the Filipino as a labourer have been afforded us. If he can only be protected from the unscrupulous labour leader, he will get along very well.

Mr. F. J. Pigott has been appointed Colonial Engineer and Surveyor General of the Straits Settlements in succession to Col. Murray. Mr. Pigott had been Deputy Colonial Engineer in the service of the Straits Government. To the position he vacates Mr. C. G. May has been appointed.

HONGKONG GYMKHANA CLUB.

FOURTH MEETING.

Patrons:—His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.; His Excellency Vice-Admiral Hon. Sir Hedworth Lambton, C.B.; His Excellency Maj.-Genl. R. G. Broadwood, C.B.; Rear-Admiral H. Lyon, R.N.

Committee:—The Stewards of the Hongkong Jockey Club (Ex-Officio). The Hon. Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G.; Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson, Mr. J. Johnstone, Mr. J. A. Jupp, Mr. H. P. White, Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton, Mr. John Paterson, Major W. A. Eaton, Major W. A. Eaton, judge; Mr. J. A. Jupp and Major W. A. Eaton, handicappers; Messrs. H. P. White and F. B. Deacon, clerks of the scales; Mr. H. J. Gedge, starter; Mr. Marcus Slade, 2nd starter; Mr. M. S. Sassoon, time-keeper; and Mr. C. Gordon Mackie, hon. sec. and treasurer.

Very successful was the fourth meeting of the season which took place on the 4th inst. at the Happy Valley, and though the attendance might have been larger—doubtless the heat kept many away—the programme gave general satisfaction. Most of the events provided some good running and fine finishes, and the tent pegging was decidedly interesting. As the result of the small attendance, the Pari-mutuel did not pay very large dividends, and neither did the cash sweepstakes produce the large prizes of former meetings. Added pleasure was given to the proceedings by the presence of the Buffs Band, under Bandmaster Hewett, which discoursed selections in their usual finished style.

GYMKHANA STAKES.—Value \$100. Distance One Mile. For all China Ponies. Catch weights at 10 st. 6lbs. Winners of an open race or open Griffin race 5 lbs. extra. Non-winning Subscription Griffins allowed 5 lbs. Jockeys who have not won more than two official races in Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lbs. A Cup called the Gymkhana Cup will be presented at the end of the Season to be won by the Pony scoring most marks in the races for the Gymkhana Stakes at the Gymkhana Meetings during the season, counting 4 points for a first; 2 for a second; and one for a third. The benefit of marks already scored to pass with the Pony on a sale. Any winner of the race to carry 5 lbs. extra for each win in subsequent starts for the Race, but in the event of a pony carrying the penalty not winning, 2 lbs. to be deducted next time he starts. Such 2 lbs. to remain deducted until he wins again, when he will carry the full penalties without deduction. Penalties accumulative up to 15 lbs. Entrance fee, \$5. 2nd Prize, \$25. (Half entrance fees to go to winner).

Hon. W. J. Gresson's Garth, 154lbs... (Mr J. Johnstone) 1
Mr Dryasdust's Triad, 157lbs (Mr Mackie) 2
Mr Dryasdust's Best Friend, 157lbs... (Mr W. S. Dupree) 3
Mr Slater's Pioneer, 136lbs... (Owner) 0
The quartette got away well, but Best Friend took the lead very early and retained it till past the stand, Pioneer all the while lying close behind. Entering the bend Garth successfully challenged, and secured a substantial lead despite the efforts of Triad who hung on to his flank. In the straight Triad gained on the leader, but could not get the winning place, Garth getting home by half a length. Time 2min. 8 1/5 secs, Pari-mutuel, \$12.10. Cash sweeps, \$245.70, \$70.20 and \$35.10.

POLO SCURRY.—Distance, From 2 Mile Post in. Ponies to start facing the village and turn right-handed at fall of flag. Catch weights 11.7. (All ponies entered must be *bond fide* polo ponies and passed as such by the Secretary of the Polo Club). Entrance fee, \$5. First Prize: A Cup presented by the Officers of the Garrison. 2nd Prize, \$25. (Entrance fees to go to winner.)

Hon. Mr. J. W. Gresson's Middlesex, 161lbs (Mr W. S. Dupree) 1
Mr J. Johnstone's Blue Ruin, 161lbs (Owner) 2
Commodore H. Lyon's Swan, 161lbs (Owner) 3
Mr H. J. Gedge's Desire, 161 lbs... (Owner) 0
Mr H. J. Gedge's Rufus, 170 lbs... (Gegg) 0

Middlesex showed the way from the start, and was an easy winner. Time 21.2/5 secs. Pari-mutuel, \$13.50. Cash sweeps, \$349.65, \$99.90, and \$49.95.

THREE QUARTERS OF A MILE HANDICAP.—For all China Ponies. The race will be split up into higher and lower divisions by the Handicappers provided that there are 12 or more entries. Entrance fee, \$5. First Prizes: Two cups presented by Commodore H. Lyon, and the Hongkong Gymkhana Club for Classes A and B respectively. 2nd Prize: \$25. Entrance fees to be divided between Winners of A Class and B Class.

CLASS B.
Mr Blank's Argyll, 140lbs (Mr W. S. Dupree) 1
Mr Seth's The Tortoise (late Strathmill) 150 lbs (Owner) 2
Major H. Findlay's Polo Stick, 165 lbs (Owner) 3
Commodore H. Lyon's Cavalier, 148 lbs (Owner) 0
Polo Stick carried 20 lbs overweight and Tortoise seven.

Tortoise with its seven pounds overweight led at the start, but had to give way to Cavalier, who partnered Tortoise, the other two also pairing. The first couple romped off from their companions, but at the rock the Tortoise shot ahead. Argyll now took up the running seriously, and after a struggle passed the Tortoise and reached the winning post with plenty to spare. Time, 1 min. 38 1/5 secs. Pari-mutuel, \$16.40. Cash sweeps, \$330.75, \$94.50, and \$47.25.

CLASS A.
Mr Johnstone's Hertzblatt, 157lbs... (Owner) 1
Hon. Mr Gresson's H. H., 142lbs... (Mr Dupree) 2
Mr Leeson's Soudan (late Forfar), 138lbs... (Mr Mackie) 3

The race was Mr Johnstone's practically from the start. H. H. made a good second, but Soudan was out of the running. Time 1 min. 36 secs. Pari-mutuel, \$6.80. Cash sweeps, \$450.45, \$128.70, and \$64.35.

INDIVIDUAL TENT-PEGGING COMPETITION.—China ponies only to be used. Best of three runs. 3 Points for a Carry; 2 for a Draw and 1 for a Touch. The Judge has at his disposal 2 points for Pace and Style over all three runs. Lance exercise will not count towards style. Entrance fee, \$2. First Prize: a Cup presented by the Hongkong Gymkhana Club.

Mr Johnstone ... 1
Captain Brierley ... 2
Captain Twiss ... 3

Only six competitors came forward but an interesting exhibition of skill followed. Mr Johnstone had 11 points to his credit, Captain Brierley 10, and Captain Twiss, 9.

ONE AND A QUARTER MILES HANDICAP.—For all China Ponies. Entrance fee, \$5. First Prize: a Cup presented by John Johnstone, Esq. 2nd Prize: \$25. (Entrance fees to go to winner.)

Hon. Mr Gresson's Lammerton 149lbs, 7 lbs overweight (Mr Johnstone) 1
Mr Blank's Greyback, 147 lbs (Mr Mackie) 2
Mr Brice's Toddles (late Phoenix), 147 lbs, 9 lbs overweight (Owner) 3
Mr. Seth's Tortoise 149 lbs, 14 lbs overweight (Owner) 0
Mr Dryasdust's Best Friend, 161 lbs (Mr Dupree) 0

Tortoise got left at the start, but the others went off in a cluster, from which Lammerton separated. Passing the stand the first time the order was Lammerton, Toddles, Greyback, and Best Friend with Tortoise closing up the gap. At the bushes Greyback came up to the leader and the two ran neck and neck. For a time the trio kept together, but near the rock Greyback had passed into first place and Lammerton was now lying third. In the straight a fine struggle was witnessed between Greyback and Lammerton, the two running neck and neck, but the victory went to the latter. The Pari-mutuel paid \$14.50. Cash sweeps, \$444.50, \$126.90, \$63.45.

The Java Times understands that the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has bought the premises now occupied by Messrs. Rowley, Davies and Co., in Kali Besar, Batavia, and intends to rebuild the same for bank purposes.

LOCAL SPORT.

BUFFS AQUATIC SPORTS.

The Regiment of The Buffs held their water sports at the Victoria Recreation Club on Sept. 10. Unfortunately, from a spectator's point of view the events were marred by a heavy downpour of rain. Lieutenant still was in charge of the arrangements, and every item on the programme was started punctually to time. Mr. Frank Lammert was judge, and in that position gave every satisfaction. The duck hunt, in which Private Stiff, G Coy., the Buffs, was the winner, was most amusing.

The polo match was between teams representing the right and left half of the Battalion. The players were as follows:—

Right half team.—Cpl. Burke, Privates Jarvis, Southee, Stroud, Lce.-Cpl. Vincer, Privates Stiff and Gibbons.

Left half team.—Privates Kennings, Page, Smith, Williams, Davies, MacMahon and Barrard.

The game was hotly contested from start to finish, but the Left team were no match for their opponents. A few minutes from the start Burke scored for the Right. Vincer, getting on the ball on the teams resuming play, tried a long shot and missed, but in a short time added two more goals. The result at half-time was: Right half team, 3 goals; Left half team, nil.

On resuming play the Left team took the game in hand and scored early. The Right team followed suit a few minutes later from a penalty given by Kennings. The Right gave the Left no rest, and soon added two more goals to their credit. The Left team had one more valiant try for goal, just as the referee's whistle sounded time.

Final: Right half team, 6 goals; Left half team, 1 goal.

Quartermaster Smith, Sergeant Major Barlow and Mr. Anderson were the judges in the sports.

The results of the competitions were as follows:—

THREE LENGTHS SWIMMING CONTEST—1st. Cpl. Burke, C. Coy.; 2nd, Lce.-Cpl. Field, F. Coy.; 3rd, Lce.-Cpl. Bounes, C. Coy. Time, 1 min. 21 sec.

TWO LENGTHS—Open to men who have learned to swim this season. 1st, Pte. Sear, C. Coy.; 2nd, Pte. Lambkin, F. Coy.; 3rd, Pte. Bougher, A. Coy. Time, 1 min. 6 sec.

DIVING COMPETITION—1st, Pte. Green, C. Coy.; 2nd, Pte. Williams, C. Coy.; 3rd, Pte. Smith, G. Coy.; 4th, Lce.-Cpl. Davies, H. Coy.

RELAY RACE—Open to teams of 4 men per Company, each man swimming two lengths. 1st, C. Coy.; 2nd, A. Coy.; 3rd, F. Coy.

TWO LENGTHS—Open to Boys of the Battalion, 1st, Smith; 2nd, Redman; 3rd, Stevens.

THREE LENGTHS HANDICAP—Open to members of the Victoria Recreation Club. 1st, A. H. Carroll; 2nd, A. H. Claxton; 3rd, P. Remedios. At the finish of the contests Mrs. Colonel Bayard presented the prizes to the winning competitors. Mr. A. H. Carroll, of the V.R.C., won the Cup presented by the Buffs, the cup being much admired by the spectators.

HONGKONG FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of the Hongkong Football Association was held at the Y.M.C.A. on Thursday. Mr. Frank Browne, of the Hongkong Football Club, was elected president, and Mr. A. N. Storrie, of the Kowloon Football Club, was elected secretary and treasurer.

It was decided to allow any ship entering port ten days in which to notify the secretary that they were desirous of joining the association.

It was also agreed to give the members of all local clubs permission to play against the Camerons on their approaching visit to Hongkong.

Sapper F. Heigh, of the Royal Engineers F. C. proposed that, "In the case of Naval or Military teams, we, as an Association, try to arrange that an Annual Contribution from some Common Naval Body or Association, and Common Military Body or Club, be paid in lieu of subscriptions, as laid down in a rule, such annual contribution to include all Naval and Military Teams who from

time to time may be stationed in, or are visitors to, the South China Station."

After some discussion the motion was withdrawn, and it was decided to allow the matter to stand over until the next annual meeting to see how the present rule applied.

KOWLOON FOOTBALL CLUB.

A meeting of those interested in the new Kowloon Football Club was held on the 6th inst. at the Kowloon Cricket Club. There was a good attendance. Mr. Mead was voted to the chair and Mr. L. J. Blackburn was elected secretary. The Chairman read a letter from the Government offering the use of the Yaumati school ground on two evenings a week, and on alternate Saturday afternoons. He added that the acting committee had accepted the offer. Office bearers were then appointed. Mr. J. Wilkie was elected president, Mr. L. J. Blackburn secretary and treasurer, Mr. R. J. Brown captain, Mr. A. P. Storrie vice captain, and Messrs. Weaser, Storrie, Mead, R. Lapsley and D. Mackenzie constituted the committee. It was decided that the colours should be all white with a black "K." The Club has joined the Association and entered the League.

C.Y.C. WATER CARNIVAL.

The first water carnival promoted by members of the Corinthian Yacht Club was held at the Club House on Saturday, and proved a decided success. There was a large number of entries in each of the seven events on the programme, and in every competition there was a keenness and healthy rivalry which is a good augury for the future of aquatic sport in the Colony. The most interesting event yesterday was the hundred yards swim for the championship of Hongkong. Besides well-known local swimmers there were two claimants for honours in this event from the Portuguese cruiser *Vasco da Gama* and another from H.M.S. *Cadmus*, and as none of these sportsmen had been seen in a race before it was thought that the trio might contain a dark horse. Such was not the case, however, for it was soon apparent that the race was between Cecil Humphreys and C. J. Cooke, and the last length showed that Cooke had no chance with Humphreys, who, although apparently short of wind, won by a comfortable margin after taking it easy in the final stages. Humphreys has long held the honour of being the fastest swimmer in the Colony over this distance, and it is to him sportsmen look to uphold Hongkong's reputation against the Shanghai representatives in the forthcoming interport swimming contests. Probably there were more ladies assembled at yesterday's gathering than have been seen at a similar function for some time, and the Carnival committee did its best to make the afternoon an enjoyable one for them. Machado's String Band played selections of music between the various events, all of which were kept well up to time. The sports were held in an enclosure in front of the Club bounded by three lighters, on two of which sitting accommodation was provided for the spectators. Results of the various events follow:—

TWO LENGTHS' HANDICAP, Open to the Colony: W. J. Carroll, 1; Gunner Burch, 2. Time—48 secs.

The first heat of this event was won by S. R. Moore, who was timed at 50 4/5 seconds. W. J. Carroll won the second heat in 48 seconds, and A. H. Carroll was timed at 43 4/5 seconds in the third heat, which is evidently a mistake, seeing that he did not get placed in the final, the time for which was 48 seconds. The final proved a good race, and Carroll thoroughly deserved his win, for Burch pressed him hard.

TWO LENGTHS' HANDICAP, Open to Members' Sons, Boys of Victoria and Garrison Schools: T. Logan, 1; A. Lozgan, 2. Time—44 secs.

There were six boys started in this event, which proved an easy thing for Master T. Logan, who gives every indication of taking a foremost place among the Colony's swimmers in the near future.

HUNDRED YARDS CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE COLONY: Humphreys, 1; C. J. Cooke, 2. Time—70 secs.

Humphreys got a good start, and after the first length it was evident that the final struggle would be between the swimmer mentioned and

Cooke. The latter made great efforts to overtake the leader, but the task proved hopeless, although Cooke gained considerably in the last length. Towards the finish of the race Humphreys slackened off speed, but he had such a comfortable lead that it was impossible for Cooke to pass him.

HIGH DIVE: Gunner Collins, 15 points, 1; C. Humphreys, 14 points, 2; C. E. Harrop, 13 points, 3.

No fewer than twelve competitors presented themselves for this event, three being from the *Vasco da Gama*. Points were allowed on form, entry and recovery, and the judges had no light task in deciding between competitors where so much skill was shown.

LADIES' NOMINATION RACE, Open to Members of the C.Y.C.: C. Humphreys, nominated by Mrs. Witchell, 1; G. Witchell, nominated by Mrs. L. E. Brett, 2.

In this event the names of each of the lady nominees were put in a bottle, and when the swimmers were ready the bottles were thrown into the water. The man who secured the bottle with the name of his nominee first was the winner, and luck was with Humphreys, who found what he wanted in the first bottle he picked up.

TWO LENGTHS' HANDICAP, Open to Members of the C.Y.C.: S. R. Moore, 1; G. Witchell, 2. Time—46 3/5 secs.

In the first heat Witchell was timed at 47 2/3 secs., while Moore's time in the second was 46 secs. In the final Moore took the lead from the start, and although Witchell made a bold attempt to overhaul him he was unsuccessful.

LIFE-SAVING COMPETITION: L. E. Lammert, 27 secs., 1; R. C. Witchell, 29 secs., 2. In this event a dummy was thrown overboard, and each competitor had to dive in to his rescue and swim with him to a place of safety. The winners were judged on time and method of rescue.

WATER POLO MATCH.

The sports concluded with a water polo match between two teams selected from various teams which took part in the competition for the Shield. The players were:

Blues: R. C. Witchell, Gunner Gast, G. Witchell, Gunner Guest, O. R. Chunyut, Y. Abbas and L. E. Lammert.

Whites: C. J. Cooke, A. H. Carroll, Corporal Burke, H. C. Sayer, J. Forbes, Pte. Williams and Bandsman Barrand.

The match ended in an easy win for the Whites, who proved superior in every way to the Blues. During the first half Guest acted as the Blues' goalkeeper, but as he had been defeated on three occasions it was decided to make Lionel Lammert custodian in the second moiety. The change proved of no advantage, however, for the Blues were entirely outclassed, and even with two men in goal would probably have been defeated. Lammert made some really remarkable saves, but was not ably enough supported by his team. Even if he had been, however, he would have had little chance with Carroll's lightning shots. This idol of the Whites netted five out of the six goals scored, the sixth being netted by Corporal Burke.

Final: Whites, 6 goals; Blues, nil.

On the conclusion of the sports those present assembled on the lawn before the Club, where Mr. E. M. Hazeland asked Mrs. Francis Clark, wife of the Commodore of the C.Y.C., to present the prizes.

The lady did so, and on conclusion of her task Mr. Hazeland conveyed to her the thanks of the members of the Club, and also presented her with a handsome bouquet.

Mrs. Clark, in returning thanks, said she was dining at the Peak that night, but she stayed on to see the end of the sports because they were so positively enchanting. She was in a hurry to get away, but she wanted to say before departing that she hoped this water carnival would become an institution. Members must certainly have worked very hard to attain such excellence. (Applause.)

Three cheers followed for Mrs. Clark, and the proceedings ended.

TENNIS.

A friendly match was played at the Wigwam Tennis Club Ground, Kowloon, on Saturday last between six members of the above Club and six of Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co.'s employees. The following were the players:

Wigwam Tennis Club:—Messrs. Boyce and Brewer, Irving and Jeffries, Bevan and Avenell.

Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co.:—Messrs. Capell and Phillips, E. A. Millar and Harper, Tarrant and Tayler.

Play was the same as at the Tennis Club's Tournament, viz., the best of 11 games, and the results were as follows:—

Games		Games	
Boyce & Brewer ...	9	Capell & Phillips ...	2
" " ...	9	Millar & Harper ...	2
" " ...	11	Taylor & Tarrant ...	0
Irving & Jeffries ...	6	Taylor & Tarrant ...	5
" " ...	5	Millar & Harper ...	6
" " ...	9	Capell & Phillips ...	2
Avenell & Bevan ...	10	Millar & Harper ...	1
" " ...	6	Capell & Phillips ...	5
" " ...	10	Taylor & Tarrant ...	1

W. T. Club, ... 75 A. S. Watson's ... 24

Owing to a misunderstanding as to the time of starting, two of Messrs. Watson's team did not turn up until 5.15 p.m. They were unfortunately not partners, so that, as it was feared the match would not be finished before the light was too bad, Messrs. Capell and Phillips played together, instead of Taylor and Phillips. As these players had not been practising together, it undoubtedly made a difference to the games, and most likely the Wigwam Club would not have won by so large a margin had the intended partners played together.

NOTES FROM FOOCOW.

We cull the following from the *Foochow Echo*:—

The sexes are equally divided in the Foochow Church nowadays: one lady and the clergyman were the only ones in attendance a week or so ago.

We understand that many Foochow residents are now going in for Muller's System of exercise, and from the Bishop downwards practically everyone (including many ladies) is taking up these exercises as a cure for obesity. Inquiries made at the local photographers go to show that thus far none have availed themselves of the professionally handled camera to secure a record of their condition before the exercises commenced.

The following is a list of firms one may expect to find in the Foochow portion of the China Directory in the year 1914 if the present depression in all business continues:—

The following is a list of firms one may expect to find in the Foochow portion of the China Directory in the year 1914 if the present depression in all business continues:—

Brother Digger & Brother,
Merchants & Missionaries.
Paulo P. Tikko,
Dealers in canned goods, battleships
and tea.
Wilkinson & Co.,
Provisions and missionary supplies.
The Library, Ltd.,
Books and Bibles always in stock at the
old Club.

A movement is on foot to establish an University for Foochow. This is being organized by the combined forces of the Anti-Everything and Anti-Booze Societies. It is proposed that the money which does not find its way into the pockets of the Cigarette dealers, Opium dealers, Wine and Spirit merchants, vendors of patent medicines (by the way, some of these patent medicines and pain killers are narcotics and wonderfully soothing at the price) and other sellers of creature comforts, shall be devoted to this laudable object. So hurry up, and weigh in the Mex. A handsome prize will be given to the biggest contributor. Subscriptions can be sent to this office. No receipts given. The students of this proposed University will regard themselves as the most enlightened individuals on the face of the earth and, to prove it, will take every opportunity of hustling (solitary) ladies into the gutter. This can be safely taken as a certainty in view of the conduct of the students of the various Colleges already established in our midst. We presume we must take this as one of the crosses we have to bear and should not grumble, but still it is a trifle hard.

COMMERCIAL

IMPORTS:—

RICE.

HONGKONG, 13th September:—The quotations of the market are nearly the same as when last reported.

Saigon, Ordinary	\$5.00	to	\$5.05
" Round, Good quality	5.05	to	5.10
" Long	5.10	to	5.15
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	5.00	to	5.05
" Garden, " No. 1 ...	5.15	to	5.20
" White	5.30	to	5.35
" Fine Cargo	5.45	to	5.50

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, September 11th.

Quotations are:—

Malwa New	\$1,150/1,180	per picul.
Malwa Old	\$1,190/1,220	do.
Malwa Older	\$1,230/1,260	do.
Malwa Very Old	\$1,270/1,300	do.
Persian Fine Quality	\$1,100/1,140	do.
Persian Extra Fine	\$1,000/1,050	do.
Patna New	\$1,070	per chest.
Patna Old	\$--	do.
Benares New	\$1,060	do.
Benares Old	\$1,060	do.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co. in their Piece Goods Report, dated Shanghai, 3rd Sept., 1909, state:—Although Exchange has ruled rather stronger than when we closed our last there is a great deal of dubiousness in the minds of all as to whether a further rise may be expected or not. This has forced operators to continue to hold off, with the consequence that another week of practically stagnation has passed. Nothing more serious has occurred to cause us to change our views; we still expect to see a good demand spring up in the near future, although circumstances, such as the unexpected advance in Exchange, may defer it for a few weeks. The hot weather is scarcely over yet, and many of the dealers are still away, but those that are about are keeping in regular touch with the Import houses, but the discrepancy between the ideas of sellers and buyers is still very marked. As regards the future the situation is almost unique. Forward business for the Spring is quite out of the question at present and no one seems inclined to encourage it with the present uncertainty regarding Cotton—even Manufacturers could not do more than quote fancy prices to be on the safe side. The prospects are, therefore, somewhat consoling to the holders of old stocks, for the supply must be considerably reduced during the next few months when the orders for the Autumn trade run out. But it is the unexpected that always happens, and it may possibly turn out that the sanguine buyers here, to whom the heavy shipments of the last few months are coming, have provided for more continuous supplies. There must be a fairly full quantity of Fancy goods under order, judging by the numerous, though small, perhaps, indents that have gone through during the past two months. It is also pretty generally understood that the Auction houses have laid in their requirements for some months ahead, so that these are two factors that have to be reckoned with, but what we have written applies more particularly to Manchester makes. The American goods that are here and on the way are most certainly more safe-guarded as regards fresh supplies, and, if they are ever going to regain their position in the trade, the next few months should give them their opportunity. A significant incident which has occurred not two hundred miles from here, and in all probability will soon spread over the Country, is the trouble that is commencing in the collection of taxes, the Authorities refusing to accept payment in the so-called "copper" tea cash coins (that have been

foisted on the people greatly above their intrinsic value) except at a big discount. It will be curious to see how the powers that be manage to get over this anomaly. Manchester is strong with prices anywhere from a shilling apiece upwards over these current here. Liverpool Cotton has fluctuated within narrow bounds, having been up to 6.85d, but comes this morning 6.80d, yesterday, when at the former figure 6.64d, was quoted for September and 6.59d, December/January. Egyptian is firm at 9½d. The August export figures are not yet in, neither is the news of the August condition of the American crop. The New York market continues very strong, 3 yard goods being quoted 11s. 2d. The Cotton quotations are 12.38 cents for October, 12.44 cents for November, and 12.45 cents for December option. Bombay is reported as flat, with no business doing to speak of. Cotton rates for forward delivery are a little easier, buying for Japan having been done at Tls. 23.25/23.80 for Tungchow, November/December shipment. The market book is again a blank so far as transactions from first hands are concerned, but we have heard of the sale of 50 cases good White Shirtings, that were cheaply bought, at a price that gives bare commission. Holders are complaining bitterly of the dulness of the market. A fair amount of re-sales, chiefly American makes, are going on, prices showing some firmness. In Drills we hear of Enoree F.F. at Tls. 4.50, Pacolet at Tls. 5.00 and Peppere'l at Tls. 5.27½. In Sheetings Loray A. and Abbeville at Tls. 4.72½, Sapasa at Tls. 4.82½, Orr 2.85 yds. at Tls. 4.87½, Indian Head Tls. 4.97½, and Buck's Head Tls. 5.05. There is a good demand for American Shirtings and Buffalo LL are said to have been done at Tls. 4.70 and 4.70 yard goods at Tls. 3.35/40. Cotton Flannels are selling in retail quantities at steady prices. At the Auctions prices have not shown much regularity, even with similar goods, greys and whites being very much in and out, a glance at the detailed lists being the best way to form an idea of the trend of the market. Turkey Reds were weaker in some chops and firmer in others, and the same may be said of Fast Black Italians, but Venetians were rather firmer, Woollens show a drooping tendency.

EXPORTS:—

TEA.

FOOCHOW, 3rd Sept.—The following settlements have taken place during the week:—Congous.—2,039 half-chests. Viz:—148 half-chests Paklum, 468 half-chests Panyong, 864 half-chests Yung How, 78 half-chests Saryfne, 452 half-chests Sen Moo, 29 half-chests Dust and Broken Leaf. Souchongs.—511 half-chests, Scented Teas.—360 boxes, Flowery Pekoes.—262 chests.

The Tea Export Summary from commencement of Season to date:—

	Total lbs.
Austria	440,494
France	627,663
Germany	2,265,997
Holland	726,631
London	2,729,708
Russia	166,580
Other Countries	337,370
South America	117,117
Australia & N. Z.	643,785
U. S. & Canada	1,007,269
South Africa	53,126
Coastwise Southward	43,880
Coastwise Northward	420,812
Total Shipments	9,580,284

CAMPHOR

HONGKONG, 13th Sept. :—The above market is at a standstill and prices remain as last quoted.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per M. M. steamer *Tonkin*, sailed on 31st August, 1909. For Marseilles—151 bales raw silk, 50 bales waste silk, 50 cases tea, 25 bales hair, 17 cases hats, 9 cases feathers, 10 cases yang yang, 3 cases silks, 13 cases provisions, 3 cases dogs. For Lyons—250 bales raw silk. For St. Etienne—15 bales raw silk. For Milan—2 bales waste silk. For Havre—76 cases tea, 218 cases porcelain, 20 cases cigars. For Bordeaux—100 cases cassia.

Per P. & O. steamer *Devanha*, sailed on 4th September 1909. For Hamburg—20 cases human hair. For Manchester—75 bales waste silk. For St. Etienne—5 bales raw silk. For Lyons—215 bales raw silk. For Marseilles—400 bales waste silk, 20 bales raw silk, 3 cases bird feathers. For London—268 bales pierced cocoons 1 case silk, 85 bales raw silk, 930 packages tea, 2 cases bird feathers, 81 bales waste silk, 2 cases bamboo hats, 2 packages dried ginger, 2 packages dried lychees, 3 cases clothing and curios, 2 cases bamboo ware

Per P. & O. steamer *Sumatra*, sailed on 9th September, 1909. Antwerp—19 bales rags, 10 bales feather. Glasgow—20 cases Chinaware. Barcelona—815 roles matting 1 package tea samples. Havre—15 bales rags. Marseilles—300 bales waste silk, 1 case bamboo hats, 5 bales human hair. London—224 cases reserves, 9 cases chinaware, 1 case woodware, 35 rolls mats, 5 cases hristles, 13 pkges. clothing, 9 pkges seamens clothing, 4 cases empty cylinders, 225 casks ginger, 2 cases cigars, 8 cases hats.

HONGKONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 10th September, 1909.—Business in local stocks continues dull and we have but few transactions to report. Rubbers also show a slackening off and not many have been dealt in. Exchange on London T/T 1/8½, on Shanghai 74½.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai, with the exception of sales at 1,000 and later at 995, we have no business to report, the market closing with sellers at the former rate.

MARINE INSURANCES.—North Chinas have further receded to 118 and Unions have been placed at 840. Beyond this we have no changes or business to report.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Some small sales of Hongkongs have taken place at 355, and the market closes steady at that rate. Chinas continue at 115, without any business to report.

SHIPPING.—With the exception of Shells which have receded to 71½, and China and Manilas, which have been done at 8½, we have no changes or business to report.

MINING.—Raubs have slightly improved to 8½, with small sales on the rumour of a likely dividend at the end of the year. Langkats, after reaching 1,060 in the early part of the week, fell to 1,025, and close at 1,030. Chinese Engineerings remain at 18½ with sellers in the North.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been placed during the week at 147½ for cash and at 152½ for December, the market closing steady at 147½ cash. Luzons in the early part of the week were negotiated at 29, but the rate has since fallen to 26 with sellers, and no buyers over 24.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have changed hands in fair lots at 62, and 61½, closing quiet at the latter rate. Kowloon Wharfs, after further small sales at 60, improved to 61 with sales Shanghai Docks have advanced to 80 in the North, and Hongkew Wharfs, after reaching 150, close at 148.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been a steady market with sales at 104½ and 105, closing with buyers at the former and probable sellers at the latter rate. West Points have been dealt in to a small extent at 44. Humphreys have continued on offer at 9½ and some sales have been effected at a little under that rate. Hotels remain neglected. The Company has declared a dividend of \$2.40 for old and 40c for new shares, payable on the 13th inst. Shanghai Lands continue firm with buyers at 119.

COTTON MILLS.—The latest quotations by wire for Ewos and Soy Chees are 138½ and 440 respectively. Other Shanghai stocks under this heading are quoted from the last circulars. Hongkongs have declined to 7 with sellers.

RUBBERS.—The market has been quieter and not so many shares have been changing hands; rates, however, continue firm and some stocks are in demand without finding sellers. The following sales have taken place during the week. Damansaras at £3 17, Belgownies at 53 and 54 (Straits dollars), Valambrosas at 22/9 and 22/7½, Anglo-Malays at 14/7½, and Shelfords at 30/7.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Borneos have been done at 13, Dairys at 17½, Cements at 8.70, China Lights at 6½, and Watsons at 8, the three last stocks closing with sellers and the two first with buyers. Ropes, Electrics and Ices continue on offer without any sales to report.

Quotations are as follows:—

STOCKS	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$1,000, sellers
National B. of China	£6	£93, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	12/6d.	\$10, buyers
China-Borneo Co.....	\$12	\$13, sellers
China Light & P. Co....	\$10	\$10, sellers
China Provident	\$1	\$6½, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo Cotton-S. & W.	Tls. 50	Tls. 138
Hongkong C. S. Co.	\$10	\$7, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 92
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 113
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 440
Dairy Farm Co.....	\$6	\$17½, sales & buy.
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$60, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$61½, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$9
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 79½
S'hai & H. Wharf....	Tls. 100	Tls. 148
Fenwick & Co., Geo....	\$25	\$11, sellers
G. Island Cement Co.	\$10	\$8.70, sales & sel.
Hongkong & C. Gas...	£10	\$210, buyers
Hongkong Electric....	\$10	\$20½, sellers
Hongkong Hotel Co. {	\$50	\$75
	\$25	\$45
Hongkong Ice Co.....	\$25	\$188, sellers
H'kong Rope M. Co....	\$10	\$24, sellers
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$185, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$115
China Traders	\$25	\$92, buyers
Hongkong Fire.....	\$50	\$355, buyers
North China	£5	Tls. 118, sellers
Union	\$100	\$840, sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$227½, buyers
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$105, sellers
Humphrey's Estate	\$10	\$9½, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$30, sellers
Shanghai Land.....	Tls. 50	Tls. 119
West Point Building	\$50	\$44, sales & sel.
Mining—		
S. F. des C. du T'kin	Fr. 250	\$625, buyers
Raubs	18/10d.	\$8½, sales
Peak Tramways Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$14, sellers
Philippine Co., Ltd....	\$1	\$140, sellers
	\$10	\$9, buyers
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$147½, sales
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$26, sellers
Robinson Piano Co. ...	\$50	\$50, sellers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila...	\$25	\$8½, sales
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$36, sellers
H., Canton & M. ...	\$15	\$31½, sellers
Indo-China S. N. Co.	£5	\$41
	£19	\$19
Shell Transport Co.	£1	71/-
Star Ferry.....	\$10	\$26
	\$5	\$15½
South China M. Post...	\$25	\$24, sellers
Steam Laundry Co....	\$5	\$5½
Stores & Dispensaries—		
Campbell, M. & Co....	\$10	\$12
Wm. Powell, Ltd. ...	\$7	\$4, sellers
Watkins, Ltd.....	\$10	\$5, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$8, sellers
Weissmann, Ltd.....	\$100	\$150, buyers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$12.40
	\$10	\$300
Union Waterboat Co....	\$10	\$10½

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

4th September, 1909.

COMPANY	PAID UP.	QUOTATION
Banks:—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$1,080, sellers
National of China...	£6	\$50, sales
Russo-Chinese	R187½	Tls. 125
	T125	
Insurance:—		
Union Society C'tn	\$100	\$840, sales & buy.
North-China	£5	Tls. 121, sellers
Yangtze Assocn. ...	\$60	\$235
Canton	\$50	\$195, sellers
Hongkong Fire.....	\$50	\$350, sales
China Fire.....	\$20	\$118, buyers
Shipping:—		
Indo - China { pref. }	£5	Tls. 47½, sellers
Shell Trans. { def. }	£1	71/3
& Trading { pref. }	£10	\$9.10.0
S'hai 'Tug & { pref. }	T50	Tls. 43½
Lighter ... { ord. }	T50	Tls. 52, buyers
Taku Tug & Lighter	T50	Tls. 45
Kochien Transport-	T50	Tls. 50, sales
ation & To Boat		
Docks & Wharves:—		
S'hai Dock & Eng...	T100	Tls. 79, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$60, buyers
S. & H'kew Wharf...	T100	Tls. 147
H. K'loon W. & G...	\$50	\$59, buyers
Yangtze	T100	Tls. 205, sales
Sugar Companies:—		
Perak Cultivation...	T50	Tls. 300, sellers
China Refining.....	\$100	\$140, buyers
Mining:—		
Raub Australian ...	£1	Tls. \$8½, sellers
Chinese Eng. & Min.	£1	Tls. 18½, sellers
Lands:—		
S'hai Investment...	T50	Tls. 119, buyers
H'kong Investment	\$100	\$105, buyers
Humphreys' Estate	T10	\$9½, buyers
Weiheiwei.....	T20	Tls. 9
China	T50	Tls. 50
Anglo-French	T100	Tls. 105, sales
Cotton:—		
Ewo.....	T50	Tls. 137
Internationals	T75	Tls. 91
Laou Kung Mow ...	T100	Tls. 112½, sellers
Soy Chees	T500	Tls. 445 sales
H.C.S.W.D.Co., Ltd.	\$10	Tls. 8½, buyers
Industrial:—		
Shanghai Gas	T50	Tls. 112½, sellers
Major Brothers.....	T50	Tls. 52½
Shanghai Ice.....	T25	Tls. 15, sales
China Flour Mill ..	T50	Tls. 41, sellers
S'hai Pulp & Paper	T100	Tls. 35, sellers
Green Is. Cement....	\$10	\$8½, buyers
Shanghai Cotton ...	T50	Tls. 78, sales
Maatschappij, & Co.,		
in Langkat.....	Gs. 100	Tls. 1,050, buy.
Shanghai - Sumatra		
Tobacco	T20	Tls. 150, sellers
Dominion Rubbers...	T6	Tls. 15½, sellers
S'hai Waterworks...	£20	Tls. 425
Anglo-Ger. Brewery	\$100	\$75
A. Butler Cement,		
Tile Works	T50	Tls. 20
Kalumpang Rubber	T50	Tls. 190, sellers
S. Rber Estates ...	T100	Tls. 280, sales
T. R. & T. Estate Co.	£1	Tls. 17, sales
Eastern Fibre	£10	Tls. 10
Shanghai Electric		
Construction.....	£10	£7.10.0, buyers
Miscellaneous:—		
Hall & Holz.....	\$20	\$23, sellers
A. Llewellyn.....	\$60	\$65
A. S. Watson & Co.	\$10	\$8½, buyers
Central Ordinary ...	\$15	\$17½, sellers
Central Founders...	\$15	\$400, buyers
S. Moutrie & Co....	\$50	\$42½
Weeks & Co.	\$20	\$27, sales
Astor House Hotel	\$25	\$17, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$73, sel. ex div.
Hotel des Colonies	T12.50	Tls. 5½
Tsingtao Hotel	\$100	Tls. 75
Lane, Crawford & Co.	\$100	\$165
Dunning & Co.	\$50	\$35
S'hai Horse Bazar...	T50	Tls. 55
S'hai Mercury	T50	Tls. 50
S'hai Mutual Tele.	T50	Tls. 65, buyers
China Im. & Ex.		
Lumber	T100	Tls. 75
Shanghai Electric &		
Asbestos	\$25	\$21
Dallas Horse Re-		
pository	T50	Tls. 15, sales
China Printing Co.	T50	Tls. 50

J. P. BISSET & Co.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. in their Share Report for the week ending Sept. 4th state:— Again this week the activity of the share market has been chiefly confined to Cotton Stocks, Langkats, Docks and Wharves. The T.T. rate on London is 2/4½. Banks.—Hongkong & Shanghai Banks. No business reported. There have been sellers all the week at \$1,080, with no buyers. Insurance.—No business reported. Shipping.—Shanghai Tug & Lighter Co. The only sale under this heading was on 1st at Tls. 43½ cash. Sugars and Mining.—No business reported. Docks and Wharves.—Shanghai Dock & Eng. Co. Shares charged hands on August 31 and September 2 at Tls. 79 for cash and Tls. 80 for September respectively. Shanghai & Hongkew Wharves. Business was done in Wharves on the 27th and 31st at Tls. 147 for September ex div. Industrial.—Cotton Stocks. Laou-Kung Mows changed hands on the 30th and 31st at Tls. 113 September, closing quotation being Tls. 113½ sellers September and Tls. 112½ cash. Ewos. These have strengthened considerably, sales being put through on the 30th, 31st, 1st and 2nd at Tls. 133 cash, Tls. 138 Sept. and Tls. 142 December. Shanghai Cottons. A sale took place on the 2nd at Tls. 73 December ex new issue. Rubbers. A single transaction is reported in Dominions at Tls. 14½ cash, the closing quotation is Tls. 15½ sales. In Tebongs business has been reported at Tls. 17, closing with buyers at this rate. Senawangs changed hands on the 2nd at Tls. 230 for cash. Maatschappij, etc., in Langkats. Business was reported on the 27th at Tls. 1,067½-1,070 cash; on the 28th at Tls. 1,067½; on the 30th at Tls. 1,050 cash; on the 31st at Tls. 1,040-1,035 September; on the 2nd at Tls. 1,030 September, closing with buyers at Tls. 1,050 cash and September. Shanghai Sumatras. A sale was reported on the 21st at Tls. 150 cash. Shanghai Ices changed hands on the 30th at Tls. 15. Green Islands. Business was done on the 27th and 31st at \$9. Shanghai Paper Co. Tls. 35. Miscellaneous.—Astor House Hotel Co. Shares were sold on the 31st at Tls. 17½. Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co. shares are quoted at Tls. 65. Loans and Debentures.—No business reported

EXCHANGE.

HONGKONG, September 13th.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/8½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/9
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/9½
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	1/9½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/9½
Documentary Bills, 4 months sight ..	1/9½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	220
Credits 4 months' sight	224
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	178½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	42½
Credits, 60 days' sight	43½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	131½
Bank, on demand	132
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	131½
Bank on demand	132
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	74½
Private, 30 days' sight	75½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	85
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	86
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	74½
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	104½
ON HATPHONG.—	
On demand	8½ p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	8½ p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	87½
FOREIGN, Bank's Buying Rates.....	\$11.40
GOLD LEAF 100 fine, per tael	\$59.60
BAR SILVER per oz.	23½

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

September:— ARRIVALS.

3. Arratoon Apear, British str., from Kobe.
3. Clara Jebson, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
3. Devanha, British str., from Shanghai.
3. Devawongse, German str., from Bangkok.
3. Glamorganshire, Br. str., from London.
3. Hongwan I, British str., from Singapore.
3. Kaifuku Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
3. Keemun, British str., from Manila.
3. Taming, British str., from Manila.
3. Tjiliwong, Dutch str., from Moji.
4. Ascania, German str., from Swatow.
4. C. Diedrichsen, Ger. str., from Hoihow.
4. Childar Nor. str., from Bangkok.
4. Fri, Norwegian str., from Sourabaya.
4. Fumi Maru, Jap. str., from Balik Papan.
4. Glenroy, British str., from Singapore.
4. Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
4. Henrik Ibsen, Nor. str., from Portland.
4. Hinsang, Brit. str., from Wakamatsu.
4. Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
4. Kueichow, British str., from Tientsin.
4. Persens, British str., from Shanghai.
4. Quarta, Dutch str., from Cheribon.
4. Tjilatjap, Dutch str., from Amoy.
4. Vorwarts, German str., from Haiphong.
5. Anamba, British str., from Singapore.
5. Asia, Russian str., from Taku Bar.
5. Choshun Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
5. Haitan, British str., from Swatow.
5. Kaifong, British str., from Cebu.
5. Laertes, British str., from Saigon.
5. Lennox, British str., from Keelung.
5. Loosok, German str., from Bangkok.
5. Saxonia, German str., from Shanghai.
5. Tsintau, German str., from Bangkok.
5. Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
6. Anhui, British str., from Shanghai.
6. Capri, Italian str., from Bombay.
6. Frithjof, Nor. str., from Haiphong.
6. Kintuck, British str., from Liverpool.
6. Signal, German str., from Hoihow.
6. Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
7. Anghin, German str., from Bangkok.
7. Berneo, Ger. str., from Sandakan.
7. C. Apear, British str., from Calcutta.
7. Choyang, British str., from Shanghai.
7. Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
7. Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
7. Taiwan, British str., from Mauritius.
8. Buelow, German str., from Yokohama.
8. Ceylon, British str., from London.
8. Daigi Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
8. Haiyang, British str., from Coast Ports.
8. Knivsberg, German str., from Hoihow.
8. Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
8. Linan, British str., from Shanghai.
8. Ningpo, British str., from Swatow.
8. Paoting, Br. str., from Hoihow.
8. P. E. Friedrich, Ger. str., from Singapore.
9. Dortmund, German str., from Hankow.
9. Sumatra, British str., from Yokohama.
9. Teucer, British str., from Puget Sound.
9. Yeterofu Maru, Jap. str., from London.

September:— DEPARTURES.

3. Albenga, German str., for Shanghai.
3. Assaye, British str., for Shanghai.
3. Dakotah, British str., for Haiphong.
3. Eskdale, British str., for Moji.
3. Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
3. Hakata Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
3. Japan, British str., for Shanghai.
3. Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
3. Moyori Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
3. Nikko Maru, Jap. str., for Australia.
3. Singan, British str., for Hoihow.
3. Tenyo Maru, Japanese str., for Shanghai.
4. Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
4. Devanha, British str., for Europe, &c.
4. Empress of China, Br. str., for Shanghai.
4. Rubi, British str., for Manila.
5. Amigo, German str., for Hoihow.
5. Bengloe, British str., for Bangkok.
5. Chenan, British str., for Shanghai.
5. Daijin Maru, British str., for Swatow.
5. Fukui Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
5. Glamorganshire, Br. str., for Shanghai.
5. Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
5. Hong Wan I, British str., for Amoy.
5. Hopsang, British str., for Saigon.
5. Kwongsang, British str., for Swatow.
5. Maunsang, British str., for Sandakan.
5. Szechuen, British str., for Amoy.
6. Glenroy, British str., for Shanghai.

7. Henrik Ibsen, Norwegian str., for Moji.
7. Hsin Ming, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
7. Kintuck, British str., for Shanghai.
7. Laisang, British str., for Singapore.
7. Persens, British str., for Singapore.
7. Saxonia, German str., for Singapore.
7. Tientsin, British str., for Swatow.
7. Tjilatjap, Dutch str., for Batavia.
8. C. Diedrichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
8. Choshun Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
8. Choyang, British str., for Shanghai.
8. Chunsang, British str., for Hongay.
8. Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Haiphong.
8. Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
8. Keongwai, German str., for Bangkok.
8. Kohsichang, German str., for Bangkok.
8. Taming, British str., for Manila.
8. Tjiliwong, Dutch str., for Batavia.
8. Tsintau, German str., for Bangkok.
9. Anhui, British str., for Shanghai.
9. Buelow, German str., for Europe, &c.
9. Ceylon, British str., for Shanghai.
9. Childar, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
9. Fumi Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
9. Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
9. Kaifong, British str., for Iloilo.
9. Kaifuku Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
9. Keemun, British str., for Kobe.
9. Kueichow, British str., for Swatow.
9. Locksun, German str., for Swatow.
9. Nanchang, British str., for Tsingtan.
9. P. E. Friedrich, Ger. str., for Shanghai.
9. Sumatra, British str., for Singapore.
9. Vorwarts, German str., for Hoihow.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

- Per *Devawongse*, from Bangkok, Mr. Gotz.
 Per *Kaifong*, from Cebu, Mr and Mrs Swartz Kopf.
 Per *Signal*, from Newchwang, &c., Mr Stedman.
 Per *Kwanglee*, from Shanghai, Mrs Brown, Mrs Mitchell and 2 children.
 Per *A. Apear*, from Japan, &c., Capt. A. R. C. Sanders, Messrs Loureiro and L. Aganoor.
 Per *Choyang*, from Shanghai, &c., Misses N. Cargell and J. M. Chaplin, Masters Parker (2).
 Per *Prinz Waldemar*, from Japan, &c., Capt. B. Lundholm, Messrs G. K. Totton and Albr. Marggraff.
 Per *Taming*, from Manila, Lient. Bump, Messrs Koenig, Nagel, Clyde and the Bandman Opera Company.
 Per *Hanoi*, from Haiphong, &c., General and Mrs Nays-Caudan, Mr and Mrs Blois and two children, Capt. S. Mouchet and Rev. W. E. Hipwell.
 Per *Sumatra*, for Hongkong, from Shanghai, Mr McIntosh; from Yokohama, for London, Engr.-Lt. Jones; from Shanghai, for Singapore, Mr M. Sharpe.
 Per *Haiyang*, from Coast Ports, Dr. and Mrs Whyte, Mrs Sutherland, Misses Hance and B. Harker, Dr. Schultze, Messrs Sao Swan, H. Palmer and Sao Swai.
 Per *Devanha*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Mr and Mrs MacLean Gibsen, Messrs Edkey Page, Philbey, G. Ross, Quina, Fiemann, Framm, G. C. Gok and J. B. White; for Singapore, Miss Leask; for London, Mr H. C. Mordant; from Kobe, for Penang, Messrs Hashimoto and Wake; for London, Mr E. Calvert; from Yokohama, for Marseilles, Mr and Mrs K. C. K. Johnson.
 Per *Zafiro*, from Manila, Major and Mrs Kirby and child, Mrs E. Morrison, Mrs C. M. Anderson, Mrs Anna J. Rubenhorst, Mrs de los Santos and child, Lt.-Comdr. A. Crewshaw, Dr. I. C. Brown, Messrs R. I. Harrison, W. G. Sparks, C. G. Lawrason, J. W. Stevenson, G. B. Costly, G. K. Harrison, J. G. Caldwell, I. Anderson, M. Gandry, P. A. Thomson, J. Talainbiros, Nicholas Jorge, R. Santos and child.
 Per *Prinz Eitel Friedrich*, for Hongkong, from Southampton, Rev. Patrick Leo and Rev. Barthol Lally; from Genoa, Mr and Mrs P. Rümcker, Capt. and Mrs Reger Brooks, Messrs A. Velhagen, Otto Schubarth, Paul Ahr, H. Ramsthal, Curt Regler, Walter Bruggmann, Walter Thiele and H. Haeblerlin; from Naples, Mr Jose Escala; from Penang, Mr and Mrs J. F. van Rees; from Singapore, Mr and Mrs Wm. Densham, Rev. A. M. dos Santos, Messrs v. d. Stadt, Lorenzo Correa, H. F. Strickland, F. Krahe and J. D. Schamhart.

- Per *Hongmoh*, from Singapore, Dr. Churchhill.
 Per *Linan*, from Shanghai, Messrs P. M. Scott and Hadby.
 Per *Haimun*, from Swatow, Miss and Master Busscher, Miss Will and Rev. Fr. Faber.
 Per *Catherine Apear*, from Calcutta, &c., Messrs Rabbits, Isaac, Shelonio Coben, Jerney, Gunner and Kernan.
 Per *Anhui*, from Shanghai, Mrs Matheson and child, Mrs Cole and child, Miss Craig, Messrs Warrington, Evans and Mitchell.
 Per *Yuensang*, from Manila, Mr and Mrs U. Ficarra, Lient.-Comdr. and Mrs G. L. Angeny, Mrs Holloway and Mr J. Zealander.
 Per *Haitan*, from Swatow, Misses and Master Thom (3), Misses and Masters Cordalho (5), Misses Jentuis (2), Messrs Thomas, Backland and Jamieson.

DEPARTED.

- Per *Hakata Maru*, for Japan, Mrs Asawa and 2 children, Rev. C. H. Hickling, Messrs Takahara, Alexander, Chapman, Melchers, C. C. Hickling, Nagano, Cotte and Marcoscamp.
 Per *Tenyo Maru*, for Shanghai, &c., Mr and Mrs L. H. Moore, Mr and Mrs C. C. Osborne, Mr and Mrs I. M. Xavier, Mrs A. Remidio, Misses Laura Johnson, M. Gubby, A. Reach and L. Reich, Right Hon. W. Tattersell Whiteley, Messrs W. E. Lishman, E. O. child, W. K. Blessing, A. Shelton Hooper, A. F. Warrack, Y. Kakekoshi, R. C. Whitenack and B. Wright.
 Per *Prinz Waldemar*, for Manila, Mr and Mrs Paul Rümcker, Capt. and Mrs Roger Brooke, Capt. J. E. Stephens and family, Revs. Patrick and B. Lally, Messrs W. Bruggmann, A. Velhagen, Jose Escala, W. Thiele, M. Egan and L. Correa; for Yap, Messrs W. Behrendt and J. D. Schamhart; for Sydney, Dr. E. Schuetz and Mr H. B. Smith; for New Guinea, Messrs H. Haeblerlin, C. Regler, Paul Ahr, Otto Schubert and H. Ramthal.
 Per *Empress of China*, for Shanghai, &c., Mr and Mrs Asher, Mr and Mrs H. P. Whitmarsh, Mr and Mrs Rissland, Mr and Mrs Morton, Dr. and Mrs Alexander, Mrs Weill and children, Mrs Davis, Misses Cadbury, Mananini, Breckinridge and Chapman, Hon. S. Joicey, Dr. Harston, Dr. J. W. Chapman, Messrs W. Gallon, J. Scott Harston, F. Graham, A. H. Cobb, W. Chapman, Davis, J. T. Lie, H. B. Kingman, Wm. Attman, S. Bertiglio, Robt. E. Humphreys and Harkness.
 Per *Nikko Maru*, for Australia, &c., Mr and Mrs Forrester, Mr and Mrs Campbell, Mr and Mrs G. N. Lamb, Mr and Mrs Walsh, Mr and Mrs T. C. Musgrove, Lient. and Mrs R. E. Bakenhaus, Mrs Squire, Mrs Kast and child, Mrs Rustia, Mrs Granile, Misses Cowan, Shio Otsubo, C. Andrews, M. Mitsui and Granile, Rev. A. Cubenas, Bishop Oldham, Major Paul Connolly, Sister Ursula, Messrs J. Darley, J. Highman, Flour, Wall, Birch, C. Edward, P. C. Campbell, C. A. Little, Jasper Clark, Frank McHugh, A. J. de Souza, P. M. Kerrigan, Rustia, Leon Alvarez, A. W. Peacock, P. Torras and servant, I. Ibara, L. Elles, P. J. Chryssecos, T. Hashikawa, T. Fujino, S. Inouye, T. Omori and M. Thomas.
 Per *Buelow*, for Hamburg, &c., Mr and Mrs Bandmann, Mr and Mrs Gray and child, Mr and Mrs Howell and 2 children, Mr, Mrs and Miss Lawrie, Mr and Mrs A. Murray, Mr and Mrs Rocher, Mr and Mrs E. A. Scott, Mr and Mrs Zimmermann, Mrs C. M. Anderson, Mrs M. Bliton, Mrs E. Hasche and child, Mrs Anna Inna Rabenhorst, Mrs Chas. A. Spafford, Misses Coursen, Graham, Michi Kawai, P. K. Law, P. L. Law, and Barbara Spafford, Lient. J. Gaston, Lient. E. Lewis, Dr. J. C. Brown, Dr. Ludwig Haller, Dr. Kozlovski, Dr. Murakami, F. Roese, Capt. C. E. Forest, Capt. C. Rosiefsky, Messrs J. B. Corby, G. Couty, W. Drechsler, J. J. W. van Dusen, A. Domingos, Paul Eramm, S. E. Freiherr v. Gayl, Marcel van Gool, D. R. Holm, G. R. Harrison, Schwester Ingenohl, G. A. Kilsen, Kesting, F. Krause, Y. P. Law, G. C. Lawrason, N. W. Law, J. Q. and S. C. Law, Graf v. Seilern, P. S. Sabert, W. J. Stiphoort, H. Sennhauser, P. A. Thomson, Juan Talambiras, Vetter and family, V. J. Vosse and J. E. Wood.

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